

Ministers force Thatcher into Ford-BL retreat

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Cabinet ministers forced the Prime Minister into a sharp about-turn yesterday, vetoing Ford's takeover talks with BL in a signal and rebellious reassertion of collective cabinet responsibility. Mrs Margaret Thatcher's image of strong leadership was further shaken last night by the whirlwind BL crisis, but she had been left with no alternative but to back down after a clear majority of the Cabinet's powerful economic affairs committee had drawn the line on the Ford talks. After a mass Commons revolt led by Mr Edward Heath on Wednesday night, Mrs Thatcher, already weakened by the Westland affair, was cornered by the outright opposition of her ministerial colleagues to the Ford option. One government source said that the decision was a reverse and it had been necessary to swallow it and get it out of the way at maximum speed. Another excited source has said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, had been the Prime Minister's only ally. One minister said last night, with evident satisfaction: "Collective responsibility is now working". After a one-hour cabinet meeting at No. 10, the economic affairs committee went into session for a further hour and the debate went round and round the table with the Prime Minister being left with no final option but to accept the defeat. The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Paul Channon, who had told the Commons only 24 hours before that it would be "ridiculous" and "foolish" not to explore the Ford-BL merger option, was instructed to go back to the House yesterday to announce: "We have decided that it would be wrong for the uncertainty to continue and that the right way to end it is to make clear that the possibility of the sale of Austin Rover to Ford will not be pursued". The announcement was widely welcomed by Conservative rebels who said that a cloud of doubt and damaging speculation had been lifted. But Mr Heath, the former Prime Minister, said that the House that it was the Government's intention, subject to satisfactory terms, conditions and undertakings, that the General Motors-BL negotiations should be brought to an early and successful conclusion. He said that he hoped "it will not be long" before he could inform the House of the results of those talks. He also said that negotiations should now be launched for the "separate privatization of Unipart by an early placement of shares with UK institutions". Mr John Smith, the Labour spokesman who had initiated the Wednesday debate, pointed out that if the Labour Party had not forced the fact of the secret talks between Ford and BL, the talks would still be continuing. He asked "why talks which are clearly not now in the public interest were ever started". Government sources said last night that the choice for ministers had been between an acceptance of responsibilities to the taxpayers and sound economic judgement and a grubby political reality. That reality was forced on ministers by Wednesday night's double revolt when Mr Heath had led an open abstention by 10 MPs on the government back benches, in a vote on a Labour attack against the BL talks. The government majority Continued on page 2, col 6

THE TIMES
Tomorrow
The modern way to woo
Roses are red, violets are blue, but today's Valentines are bored stiff with them. They prefer something a little more original. Find out how to keep the modern sweetheart sweet...
Bigger bubbles
How glamour came back to the Hammers - and paid dividends
Turkey trotting
The carpet sellers and Walkmans of Istanbul
Best-sellers
The perfectly packaged book - and how to write it

Portfolio
There is £4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition - double the usual amount because no-one won yesterday. Portfolio list, page 22; how to play, information service, page 32.

Farrakhan held at Heathrow
Mr Louis Farrakhan, the American black Muslim leader notorious for anti-semitic remarks, arrived at Heathrow from Chicago yesterday intending to fly to Lagos, and was held by immigration officers until his onward flight was arranged. The Home Secretary imposed an exclusion order on him last night.

Madrid blast kills admiral
Vice-Admiral Cristóbal Colón, a direct descendant of Christopher Columbus, was assassinated in a grenade attack on his car in Madrid. His driver also died. The Basque separatist organization ETA was suspected.

Defence anger
The Labour Party reacted angrily to American criticisms of its defence policy as the USAF announced that it was withdrawing 24 aircraft and a thousand servicemen from Britain.

Couple jailed
A young couple who embarked on a Bonnie and Clyde style series of armed robberies shortly after their wedding have been jailed.

Pound firmer
The pound rose more than a cent to \$1.40 as oil prices picked up to \$16.50 a barrel. The sterling index rose 0.3 to 73.9. The threat of higher base rates has eased with the pound's recovery.

Haiti defiance
President Duvalier's grip on Haiti appeared weaker as the island's middle-class commercial community refused to carry on with business as usual despite tough government measures.

Joseph to defy exam boycott
The new GCSE examination for 16-year-olds will go ahead despite a boycott from the two biggest teaching unions. Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday. He said courses for the new exam would begin this autumn, as planned, and the training programme for teachers would continue. "The Government does not intend to postpone the GCSE," he said. "Parents and their children will not understand a refusal by teachers to implement the GCSE." The new exam, which replaces O levels and CSEs and puts less emphasis on the acquisition of knowledge and more on its application, was urged upon Sir Keith by the teaching unions. Its introduction, announced in 1984, was welcomed. But the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers decided separately last year to have nothing to do with it as part of their industrial action. This week both unions issued a joint statement to say that they would continue their boycott in spite of the anticipated ending of the pay dispute this month. Sir Keith said he regretted that statement because it could only cause confusion and anxiety for pupils and parents. He said teachers should remember that the national programme of preparation has started and that the first stage - training the trainers - was successfully completed in time. The second phase - training heads of department - was going ahead. "Now is the time for teachers to begin attending training seminars," he said. "These seminars are forecast."

Fraud trial
A senior British EEC official took part in a £1.8 million fraud involving a single counterfeit cheque. The Central Criminal Court was told.

Snow forecast
Cold weather yesterday brought confusion to the roads. Persistent frost and more snow showers are forecast.

Actress dies
Dandy Nichols, famous for her portrayal of Alf Garnett's wife in the television series *Till Death Us Do Part*, has died in hospital in London.

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Hope for exports boost
Russia trade plan agreed by Britain
By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent
Britain and the Soviet Union yesterday announced a new long-term economic and industrial co-operation programme which the Government said should help British firms to win exports worth billions of pounds into the next decade. The five-year programme, which could be extended for another five years, has been drawn up under the British-Soviet Joint Commission. Mr Paul Channon, the new Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said that there were good prospects for British companies to export to the Soviet Union, and he urged them to "take full advantage of the trading climate and opportunities which the long-term programme offers". It was revealed yesterday that among leading British companies tendering for Soviet contracts or hoping to negotiate co-operation deals, British Aerospace is having discussions with the Soviet aviation authorities on the possibility of joint development of small passenger aircraft. The new programme marks a distinct lessening of tension between Britain and the Soviet Union since last year's tit-for-tat diplomatic expulsions. The commission's meeting has been postponed four times since last year, but Mr Alexei Manzhulo, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Trade Minister, stressed that this was due to the appointment of a new trade minister and not to the expulsions. The new programme covers a much wider cross-section of industrial and technological projects and services and is expected to involve British companies in building factories and production facilities in Russia. Mr Alan Clark, Minister for Trade, said at a press conference that the outlook for UK trade with the Soviet Union was given a boost by Mr Gorbachev's visit in December 1984. He set a target of a 40-50 per cent increase in trade turnover between the two countries. After stagnating in the late 1970s and early 1980s, UK exports to Russia grew by 65 per cent in 1984 over 1983 and the trade deficit was reduced by more than half to £119 million. The UK has traditionally maintained a healthy trade surplus with Russia in manufactured and semi-manufactured goods, which reached a record high of £492 million in 1984. Details, page 17

£2.3bn Distillers bid
A new record-breaking takeover bid was launched in the City yesterday for Distillers. The Haig whisky to Gordon's gin company (Jeremy Warner writes). Argyll, Mr James Gulliver's supermarkets group, upped the bidding in the auction for Distillers to £2.3 billion. Mr Gulliver also launched a scathing attack on Guinness, the brewing and retailing group which agreed £2.2 billion merger terms with Distillers last month. Details, page 17

More than a butt of sack for the poet
From Michael Binyon, Washington
America will soon have its first poet laureate. President Reagan has signed the decree, and within a few weeks a federal verifier-at-large is to be chosen, available for inaugurations, Independence Day celebrations, the erection of monuments, launching of ships and diverse other auspicious occasions sufficiently momentous to be rendered immortal. No one has had the title of poet laureate in the United States before, although several poets have graced the nation's ceremonies with their presence and their inspiration. Robert Frost, for exam-

Peres vow to avenge terrorism
From Ian Murray, Jerusalem
Mr Shimon Peres threatened yesterday to strike back hard if there were any terrorist attacks against Israel. The Israeli Prime Minister was speaking after Mr Ahmad Jabril, commander of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command, had warned the public not to fly on American or Israeli aircraft. Mr Jabril told a news conference in Tripoli on Wednesday: "We cannot be responsible for what may happen to them. The Americans and Zionists have inaugurated this new method. They can expect to reap the results." He was referring to Israel's interception of an aircraft which it wrongly believed to be carrying Palestinian leaders who had been attending a radical conference in Tripoli. Mr Peres answered the threat in a speech to the Zionist Executive Council. "All those who dare to strike at us must know that we will respond," he said. Security had to be Israel's priority. He has admitted that the interception was a "mistake". Intelligence sources here now say there were three similar executive jets leaving for Syria, and one did have wanted Palestinian leaders on board. The wrong jet was intercepted. There has been a mixed reception in Israel to the decision to force the aircraft down.

MPs call for full Westland papers
By Philip Webster, Political Reporter
Mr Michael Heseltine yesterday injected fresh controversy into the Westland affair when he told the Commons defence committee that summaries of key documents provided to it by the Department of Trade and Industry were inadequate. In another serious clash with the Government, the committee, at the prompting of its senior Labour member, Dr John Gilbert, demanded to see the full text of the papers. Dr Gilbert said that Mr Heseltine had made a serious charge that the committee was being misled in material respects on the instructions of ministers. The papers are the minute of October 4 from Mr Leoz Brittan, the former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, to the Prime Minister, and the note of October 18 of a meeting between Mr Brittan and Sir John Cuckney, chairman of Westlands, which Mr Heseltine has argued would prove that his advocacy of the European solution for the company was consistent with government policy. On Tuesday the committee was sent summaries of the two documents. Sir Brian Hayes, Permanent Secretary to the DTI, said in a letter that ministers did not think it "appropriate or in accordance with the normal conventions" to make the full documents available. But Mr Heseltine, exploding within minutes of the start of his long testimony the Government's hope that the affair might begin to die, stated that after checking the original documents against the summaries, the summaries "glossed over" views that were held at the time by certain key participants. In a confident performance before the committee Mr Heseltine later directly contradicted the Prime Minister over a meeting of ministers which he said had been planned for December 13. Mr Heseltine told the committee that if that meeting had taken place the history of events would have been different, and "Westland would by now have been secure". But he said: "We know that it was the Prime Minister who said there would be a meeting on the Friday. We know it was the Prime Minister who cancelled the meeting. There is no doubt who is responsible for the position." Bristow disclosure, page 2; Photograph, page 4; Geoffrey Smith, page 4

Dirty hospitals to lose immunity
By Richard Evans and Nicholas Timmins
National Health Service hospitals with unhygienic and infested kitchens will soon no longer be immune from criminal prosecution. Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Health and Social Services, announced last night. His decision to introduce legislation this parliamentary session to remove the historic Crown immunity enjoyed by hospitals follows all-party Commons pressure in the wake of the Stanley Royd Hospital food poisoning tragedy which claimed the lives of 19 patients. There have been 211 outbreaks of food poisoning in hospitals in the past six years affecting 3,969 people, of whom 279 died. A survey by the Institute of Environmental Health Officers last year showed that 600 out of 1,000 NHS hospital kitchens broke food health regulations and 97 of them would have been liable to prosecution, but for Crown immunity. Mr Fowler said the proposed legislation would be coupled with tougher guidance to the health service on measures to ensure high food hygiene standards. The Government has decided to introduce its own Bill rather than support Mr Shepherd's measure, which proposes doing away with Crown immunity at all government premises. The move received a warm welcome from National Association of Health Authorities which warned, however, that considerable extra funds would have to be spent to bring some hospital kitchens up to scratch. New pressure, page 2; Parliament, page 4



The Prince and Princess of Wales on their way to the ski slopes at the start of their winter holiday in Klosters, Switzerland

Strike follows leak at N-plant
By Peter Davenport and Pearce Wright
Eight hundred construction workers at the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant walked out on strike yesterday in protest at the handling of the escape of radioactive plutonium mist. The men, who are part of the 4,000-strong workforce engaged in a £3,500 million expansion programme at the Cumbrian plant, complained that they had not been informed about the amber alert at the complex on Wednesday. British Nuclear Fuels, who operate Sellafield, insisted they had informed union officials about the release and added that the protest was expected to end today. But the controversy surrounding the latest incident continued with calls from environmental groups for its operation to be closed down. Last night Sellafield was again reprocessing nuclear waste. The building where the radioactive mist escaped from a faulty pump unit, was also working normally, although staff had been instructed to wear protective face masks as a precaution against contamination. An inquiry by the Government's nuclear safety experts from the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate has started. The inquiry, demanded by the Health and Safety Commission, will go beyond establishing the events leading to the leak, and look at the wider management implications at Sellafield. But a preliminary report from the safety inspectors concludes that "the leak has been well contained".

Murdoch wins injunction against union
The High Court yesterday granted an injunction to News Group Newspapers against the union Sogat 82 over the printing of the *News of the World* in Manchester. The order, which takes effect from 11 am today, requires Sogat to cease interfering with the company's contract with Express Newspapers for the printing of northern editions of the newspaper. The union is ordered to refrain from inducing employees of Express Newspapers to back the *News of the World* or to refuse to print or handle it. On each of the last two weekends more than two million copies of the newspaper have been lost because Sogat members at the Manchester plant have obeyed union instructions. Kinnoch ban, page 2

Channel deal
Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Francois Mitterrand will sign the Channel Tunnel treaty in the Chapter House of Canterbury Cathedral next Wednesday.

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US official's attack on unilateralism angers Labour Party

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Labour Party reacted angrily yesterday to criticisms of its defence policy by Mr Richard Perle, United States Assistant Defence Secretary.

The moves came as it was announced that 24 military aircraft and about 1,000 servicemen are to be withdrawn from Britain by the United States Air Force beginning in the spring of next year.

In a lecture delivered in London on Wednesday evening, Mr Perle said the Labour Party's policy of "aggressive unilateralism" had almost unique potential for the destruction of the Atlantic security relationship.

He said other differences could be accommodated, "but something as fundamental as the unilateralism of the British Labour Party seems to me the only threat that I can imagine that could lead to the sort of divergence that could destroy the integrity and the effectiveness of the Atlantic Alliance".

He thought, however, that it was "rather unlikely" that parties with those or similar views would come to power, and even less likely that, in

power, they would adopt the policies which, out of power, they were preaching.

Mr Kevin Macnamara, a Labour Party defence spokesman, said that what could lead to the break-up of the Atlantic alliance would be ill-informed lectures by unelected representatives of the American Government.

Mr Perle had completely misrepresented the basis and nature of the Labour Party's policy. He should ask himself whether he wanted an ally or a satellite.

The decision to withdraw the American aircraft and Servicemen was announced by the USAF yesterday as a result of an annual review by the USAF of its worldwide commitments (the Press Association reports).

The changes involve the withdrawal of 18 RF-4C Phantom reconnaissance aircraft from Alconbury in Cambridgeshire and 6 F-111F swing-wing bombers from Lakenheath in Suffolk. Six of the Phantoms will be redeployed in Europe and the remainder will go back to the United States to replace losses there.

As a result of those changes, about 785 Service-

Pressure to end all building immunity

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Pressure will mount for the abolition of Crown immunity for all government buildings after the announcement yesterday that hospitals will no longer be covered.

Today a private member's Bill comes before the House of Commons for its second reading. It would end Crown immunity under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and make all government premises liable to inspection and prosecution if they did not come up to the required standards.

At present all central government buildings (but not local authority buildings such as schools) enjoy Crown immunity, an ancient common law principle that no proceedings, either criminal or civil, can be brought against the Crown.

This means that when conditions in Crown buildings such as prisons, police stations, government offices and until now hospitals fail to meet the standards required under such legislation as the Food and Drugs Act 1955 and the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, no court proceedings can be brought against those responsible even if the conditions result in serious illness, grave injury or death.

Yesterday Mr Clive Wadley, assistant secretary of the Institution of Environmental Health Officers, said he welcomed the decision to abolish Crown immunity for hospitals. But the institution's campaign always had been for removal of Crown immunity across the board.

"Obviously we have gone for hospitals first because it is in these establishments that deaths have occurred.

There also was concern that nurses' premises, for example, did not always meet the required standards under housing laws, and hospitals with their numerous chimneys and boilers might not comply with anti-pollution laws.

At present the problem was that the environmental health officers did not even have access to government establishments under the Property Services Agency, which included the Customs and Excise offices, Inland Revenue and Paymaster General.

The institution would be pressing for an end to Crown immunity each time that there was an opportunity for the Government to review the law.

Other groups are also pressing for abolition of Crown immunity. The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders is particularly concerned about prisons where there is no arrangement equivalent to that for hospitals allowing environmental health officers access to advise on good practice.



Mr Michael Heseltine, leaving home yesterday to appear before the Defence Select Committee (Photographic: Chris Harris) Report, page 32

Bristow 'had offer to change sides'

By Robin Young

Mr Alan Bristow disclosed yesterday that shortly before the Westland shareholders' meeting he was offered a £2.25 million profit on the shares he then held and a seat on the board by Sir John Cuckney—if he would switch his support to the Sikorsky-Fiat bid.

Mr Bristow claimed that Sir John, who is chairman of Westland, and Sir Gordon White, of Hanson Trust, arrived unannounced at a meeting he had with Mr Hubert Faure, senior executive vice-president of Sikorsky's parent company, United Technologies.

They wanted me to do something which I thought was entirely improper," Mr Bristow said. "They also said it was about time that I got the recognition I deserved for my services to British industry. I think it is quite immoral."

Mr Bristow said that it was the second offer he had received that day to buy out his shares. "The other came from an independent source. It also spoke of the possibility of some public recognition, but did not include a seat on the board. I have had another such offer since, but I will not say from whom."

Sir John confirmed that he had met Mr Bristow twice

Handsworth to be part of £8m initiative on jobs

By Stephen Goodwin, Political Staff

The Government yesterday launched a new initiative to improve job and business prospects in selected inner-city areas with high ethnic minority populations. Two of the target areas, St Pauls in Bristol, and Handsworth, Birmingham, have been the scene of fierce street violence.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of State for Employment, told the Commons that the Government wanted to intensify and bring together the efforts of government departments, local councils, the private sector and local communities in eight small inner-city areas.

Within these it intended to try out new approaches, particularly on training and self-employment opportunities. This would be tackled through projects of direct benefit to local residents and to their environment.

"We shall seek to stimulate enterprise, and provide a stronger base for the local economy. We shall give special attention to the problems of young people from ethnic minorities where they are particularly disadvantaged," Mr Clarke said.

But the £8 million allocated by the Government to get the initiative off the ground was derided by Opposition MPs. Mr John Prescott, Labour's employment spokesman, said it was "a mouse of a statement compared to the scale of the problem".

Mr Clarke said in his statement that the Government had selected areas which were diverse in character but whose residents shared problems of deprivation and lack of opportunities.

In addition to St Pauls and Handsworth, the areas are Notting Hill and North Peckham in London, the Chapeltown area of Leeds,

EETPU executive delays crisis talks

By Michael Horsnell

The executive of the electricians' union, which was instructed by the Trades Union Congress on Wednesday to stop co-operating with News International at Wapping, will not meet until next Tuesday to discuss its response—only 24 hours before the TUC deadline for compliance runs out.

Mr Tom Breakell, president of the 350,000-member union, yesterday told the EETPU executive that the TUC had found it guilty of conduct detrimental to the union movement.

But original plans to call a special meeting of the executive were called off in favour of next Tuesday's normal monthly meeting.

If the union fails to comply with the TUC instruction by the next day it faces suspension and ultimate expulsion by the full Congress on a card vote in September.

That could lead to a full-scale membership war between the EETPU and affiliated unions.

A big sticking point is likely to be the TUC general council's demand that EETPU should not enter a single union agreement at Wapping where Mr Rupert Murdoch's four News International titles are produced. The EETPU was the only union to negotiate with News

Kinnock maintains Press ban

By Anthony Bervin

Mr Neil Kinnock last night held a House of Commons press conference from which representatives of News International newspapers, *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, and *News of the World*, were excluded.

The Labour leader broke his formal links with parliamentary lobby journalists last week when, after a Labour Party National Executive resolution, he said that because of the industrial dispute over Wapping he would "not accept questions or other approaches from journalists employed by News International". Because News International journalists alone could not be excluded from his Thursday lobby briefings, those meetings were cancelled.

His office yesterday invited selected journalists to a private meeting.

Representatives of the *Daily Mail* and the *Yorkshire Post* said they would not attend. But journalists on the *Guardian*, *Financial Times*, *Daily Express*, *Mirror*, and from the Press Association, BBC and ITN, said they would be there if they had the time.

Mr James Whitman, of the *Daily Telegraph*, told *The Times*: "I am not answering the question."

Mountains of food 'a timebomb'

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The continued existence of Europe's food mountains represented a "time bomb" which could blow up its agricultural policy, Mr Frans Andriessen, the EEC Agriculture Commissioner, said yesterday.

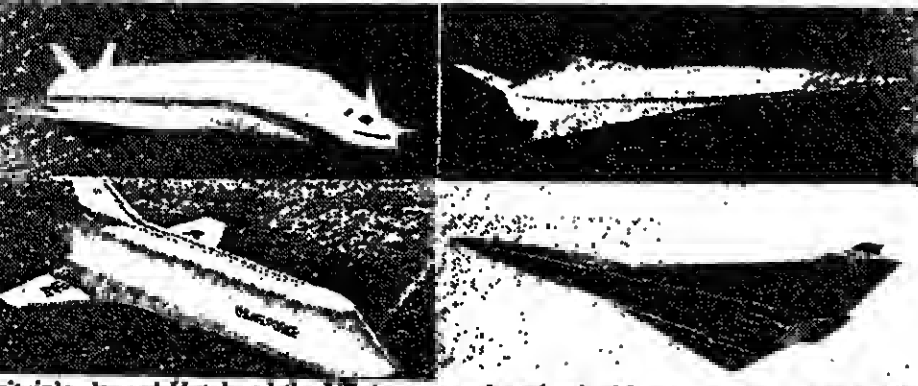
In the closing address to a conference in London, on the day after the European Commission announced its latest farm price proposals, Mr Andriessen said it would be irresponsible to ignore the dangers.

That was why the Commission proposed to begin this year its £1,800 million programme to dispose of surplus stocks.

"By any commercial standards, the way in which we accumulate and maintain such stocks is absurd," he said.

So, far from stabilising the market, they permanently destabilized it. "The longer we keep them, the more expensive it becomes to dispose of them," he told the conference, organized by the magazine *Agra Europe*.

Prices may be frozen, page 7



Britain's planned Hotel and the US Aerospaceplane (top) with the Lockheed (above left) and Nasa models of the hypersonic "Orient Express," research for which is going ahead.

Spaceplane, British style

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Competition is building between the United States and Europe to be the first to build a spaceplane.

The encouragement given to the American aerospace industry by President Reagan to his State of the Union address was for the building of the "Orient Express", a relative late entrant to the field which it is planned will be capable of flying in low earth orbit from Washington to Tokyo in two hours.

A design of such a vehicle was produced last year by British Aerospace with its Hotel (horizontal takeoff and landing) project, which the

Joseph to defy exam boycott

Continued from page 1

hours and the Government is funding 90 per cent of the cost of supply cover for teachers released to attend these seminars up to a total of £3 million expenditure.

The preparations, including the initial training programme and the extra training from September 1986 onwards, were unprecedented.

Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the NAS/JWT, said that £3 million was a "drop in the ocean". He said: "It does not in any way recognise the enormous amount of additional work required of teachers who will have to revolutionize their syllabuses, and it does not recognise the fact that industrial action in the 1985 salaries dispute has crippled a large part of the country beyond the point of no return."

If the exam went ahead, "unholy chaos" would reign, Mr de Gruchy said.

The Secondary Examinations Council, which is responsible for introducing the new exam, estimates that teachers' attendance rate at the current training courses is between 60 and 75 per cent despite the union boycott.

"There is no way we can go back now because all the preparations are in train," Sir Wilfred Cockcroft, the council's chairman and chief executive said.

Ministers force BL retreat

Continued from page 1

on the Labour motion had been one to nine, but that slumped to an 86-vote majority when the Government had called for support in pursuing all options for a nationalized group which had received £2.2 billion in grants and a further £1.5 billion in guarantees since it was nationalized 10 years ago.

Among those who failed to vote in the second motion were Mr Michael Heseltine, Mr Francis Pym and Sir Ian Gilmour, all former Conservative cabinet ministers.

Dr David Owen, the leader of the Social Democratic Party, said last night: "Incompetence is the hallmark of the BL saga, just as incompetence underlies the Westland affair."

Speaking in Watford, he said: "We cannot buy British if there is nothing British left to buy" and added that the Government knew the price of everything but the value of nothing.

The Conservative Party's present difficulties were emphasized last night by Mr George Gardner, a backbench Conservative loyalist, who said in Streatham, south London: "The overwhelming majority of Tory MPs remain loyal to Mrs Thatcher and are sick to death of this assassination campaign."

Experts clash on birth

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Senior obstetricians clashed yesterday over the handling by Mrs Wendy Savage of a birth over which she is accused of professional incompetence.

Mr John McGarry, the senior consultant obstetrician at the North Devon Hospital, said he did not believe Mrs Savage's management of the case could be faulted. Her employer, Tower Hamlets Health Authority, is accusing her of "idiosyncratic" management, outside the normal limits of medical practice, which was "potentially hazardous to the unborn child".

"Obviously if the terms were right I would have to consider any offer of the chairmanship very seriously indeed, but it would be quite unbusiness-like for me to request such a thing."

Geoffrey South, page 4

Glue-sniff parent's remorse

A father told an inquest yesterday how he put his son aged 10 in care in an effort to stop him glue-sniffing.

For four years after Billy Smithson returned home his father thought he was cured—but the schoolboy was still experimenting with drugs. He died two weeks ago, aged 14, after inhaling petrol from a moped during a party. He had been in a coma in hospital for two months.

Mr James Smithson said last night after a coroner passed a verdict of death by misadventure: "I want to plead with other boys not to experiment with anything like this. The only way to stamp this evil out is to pass a law to punish youngsters who start sniffing glue to stop others from trying it."

Mr Smithson, a pipe layer of Hillson Drive, Fareham, Hampshire, who brought two children up after his wife left, said he discovered Billy was sniffing glue when he found him reeling in the bathroom.

Two held over Sikh attacks

Continued from page 1

Two Asian men were being questioned last night by detectives from Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad investigating the murder of a Sikh leader and the wounding of another in incidents in west London.

The attacks last month were directed at moderate leaders in the Sikh community in the Southall area. The two men were held when detectives raided an address in south London. Police are also seeking a third man suspected of being the gunman.

Sharkey pair held by IRA

The mother and sister of the pop star Feargal Sharkey, Mrs Sibel Sharkey and her married daughter, Ursula Clifford, were held hostage yesterday for more than five hours by six masked IRA gunmen in a house on the outskirts of Londonderry's Shantallow.

Police believe the gunmen had been setting up an ambush for security forces

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Leyland's truck ride through trouble

By Clifford Wehh, Motoring Correspondent

Leyland's problems with its truck operations began to look ominous as long ago as the late 1970s.

While most of its European rivals were riding high with booming sales at home and overseas, the British company was hampered by outdated trucks and too many inefficient and scattered factories.

But with the help of £370 million in government financing it was just embarking on a fundamental reorganization aimed at providing a whole

new range of trucks made in fewer factories by a much slimmer workforce.

The irony of what has happened since is that the reorganization started back in 1980 has kept step with one of the most difficult periods in the recent history of the European truck industry.

Few firms have made money and most have suffered very heavy losses. But at the same time the most aggressive European groups, such as Daimler Benz of West Germany, Volvo from Sweden, and Renault of France, were taking advantage of a similar collapse of

sales in the United States to buy truck companies there cheaply.

They were moves much resented by American groups such as General Motors and Ford.

With the impending closure next month of its truck assembly plant at Bathgate near Edinburgh, Leyland will have completed its survival plan.

The trucks' labour force will have been cut from more than 12,000 in 1982 to about 6,500 operating from only two assembly plants, Leyland, near Preston, for general

purpose trucks, and Scammell at Watford for "super heavies" for special purposes at home and overseas.

It also has begun a £9 million modernization of its Albion axles plant at Scotstoun, Glasgow. In the meantime, it continued to lose ground at home and overseas.

There has been some slight improvement in domestic sales recently but since 1979 output of Leyland trucks has fallen from 30,000 a year to 14,000. The main problem has been the collapse of traditional export markets.

Parliament, page 4

Annice
Robbie

سوريا من الأصل

Violent career of a rector's son and a professor's daughter

'Bonnie and Clyde' jailed for spate of robberies

From Tim Jones, Gloucester

A rector's adopted son and the teenage daughter of a professor of English who embarked on a violent year-long campaign of armed robbery began lengthy prison sentences yesterday.

Gloucester Crown Court was told that four days after their wedding in August 1984, Philip John Oules, aged 26, and his bride, Jayne Kamala, who was then 17, started their life of crime.

Their violent "Bonnie and Clyde" career ended the next year after Oules, who had terrified customers at Cheltenham post office, was followed and brought down by Mr Dick Whitaker, a restaurant owner, who chased him into a department store.

Oules, of Poppyfield Court, Northampton, pleaded guilty to nine charges of robbery, one of attempted robbery, nine of having firearms with intent to commit robbery and four of shortening shot-gun barrels.

Mr Chadd said: "An unpleasant aspect of his activities is that he was more than a mere predator on banks and post offices. He took a warped pleasure in the agony he imposed on others as demonstrated by the needless pressing of a shot-gun to the head of a pensioner."



Jayne Oules (above left), who received five years' youth custody, and her husband Philip (above right), who was jailed for 15 years.



WPC O'Keefe (above), who arrested Oules, and the shed with a boobytrap guard.

Peter Ridge said: "When they moved in they didn't seem a lot different from anyone else, but they started to buy expensive things—stereos and all sorts of other electronic gadgets."

Mrs Stephanie Ridge said their neighbours appeared to have an active sex life. She said: "She was something of an exhibitionist, wearing skimpy clothes. She was a very sexy dresser—her clothes were lacy and men-oriented."

The couple faced an indictment of 23 charges. Oules admitted all the charges and his wife admitted five involving two bank raids at Derby and Aylesbury, two post office raids at Watford and Cheltenham, and an attempted post office robbery at Dudley, West Midlands.

Relief of breast pain on way

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A drug used to treat breast cancer may offer hope to thousands of women who suffer from severe breast pain during their monthly cycles, according to a study at Guy's Hospital, London.

Severe breast pain, mastalgia, is the most common breast problem reported to family doctors, according to Mr Ian Fentiman, the consultant surgeon who carried out the study.

Mr Fentiman said: "The women show no signs of serious disease, but the pain is often associated with the menstrual cycle and it can be so severe that it prevents women from enjoying a social life or sexual activity."

Most women reported that there were no undue side effects, although a quarter said they had hot flushes and one in six vaginal discharge.

Mr Fentiman said yesterday: "The long-term safety of the drug must be proven before it can be recommended for routine treatment. We will be looking at this aspect in a current study, Longer-term treatment of breast cancer patients with tamoxifen will also help us to evaluate any possible risks."

Tamoxifen has proved useful in treating breast cancer and Imperial Cancer Research Fund scientists suggested last month that a large-scale trial should be launched to see if it can prevent breast cancer.

Briton in £1.8m cross-Channel fraud, court told

A senior British EEC official based in Brussels was involved in a cross-Channel fraud aimed at cheating a City stockbroking firm out of £1.8 million using a single counterfeit cheque, it was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

A cheque for that sum, forged in London and purporting to be drawn on the account of brokers James Capel, was flown to Luxembourg where Richard Hamill, aged 46, paid it into a numbered bank account which he had opened, the jury was told.

The National Westminster Bank in London was about to transfer the money and had actually marked the cheque "paid". But a clerk at James Capel discovered their account was overdrawn and began inquiries.

Mr Hamill was to have received £10,000 for assisting in making the £1.8 million "vanish" in the untraceable numbered account, Mr Langdale said.

He and David Green, aged 45, a company director, of Kensington Gardens, west London, deny conspiracy to defraud.

The case continues today.

The case continues today.

Aids 'to spread to all areas'

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is likely to spread to every area of Britain within the next few years and local health officials must be prepared, the Government's chief medical officer, Dr Donald Acheson, said yesterday.

District health authorities are being encouraged by the Department of Health to plan for every aspect from prevention to treatment.

Dr Acheson, speaking at an Aids seminar in London, said such preparations were needed "so that the arrival of the first case of Aids in a district will not cause the sort of unfortunate publicity and panic that occurred one or two years ago".

A £3 million publicity campaign highlighting the facts and the fallacies about Aids is about to be launched by the Government.

The national campaign, concentrating on newspaper advertisements, will be backed up by a regional confidential hotlines.

A total of 287 Aids cases in Britain had been reported by the end of last month, including 144 deaths.

The Government has admitted that estimated construction costs of the scheme had risen from £5.8 million to £0.6 million, and aspect of it were being reappraised.

Military bands merger attacked

By Rodney Cowton and Richard Evans

The Ministry of Defence has run into more trouble over its controversial plan to merge its three military schools of music into a single Defence School of Music.

Charges

The couple faced an indictment of 23 charges.

Oules admitted all the charges and his wife admitted five involving two bank raids at Derby and Aylesbury, two post office raids at Watford and Cheltenham, and an attempted post office robbery at Dudley, West Midlands.

Oules pleaded guilty to armed bank robberies in 1984 at Williams and Glyn's, Dickson Road, Blackpool, on August 29 (when £4,010 was taken); The Spot, Derby (£3,114); and October 11 at Barclays, Buckingham Street, Aylesbury (£9,028).

He also admitted an attempted armed robbery on October 25, 1984, at a post office in Dudley.

He admitted armed robberies last year at post offices - on January 23 at Church Road, Cancock (£14,939); on May 6 at Market Street, Watford (£13,204); on May 16 at The Bull Ring, Kidderminster (£8,645); and on July 24 at The Promenade, Cheltenham (£8,489).

Oules further admitted robbing a shop at Smith Street, Warwick, on October 8, 1984, stealing £160 and other articles at a knife-point, and a shotgun robbery at the High Street post office, Rickmansworth, on October 26, 1984, when he stole £7,100.

Nine offences of possessing a shotgun with intent and four offences of shortening gun barrels were also admitted by him.

Fastest train to Scotland

By Craig Seton

The Electra, a new generation of Inter-City locomotives capable of 140 miles per hour, the fastest in Britain, has been ordered by British Rail in a £35 million deal announced yesterday.

It will begin service in 1989 on the newly electrified East Coast Line, first between London and Leeds and then between London and Edinburgh by 1991, cutting 10 minutes off the 4 hours and 20 minutes journey time.

The order for 31 class 91 Electras has been awarded to GEC Transportation Projects which will design and manufacture the electric motors and control systems.

Although the Electra has a top speed of 140 mph, its speed on the East Coast run is expected to be kept to 125 mph to avoid extra fuel costs.

Radical legal aid plan for Scotland

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Radical and wide-ranging proposals to remove responsibility for the legal aid scheme in Scotland from the Law Society and the courts and place it with a new quango were published by the Government yesterday.

The Legal Aid (Scotland) Bill proposes that in future the Scottish Legal Aid Board should take over responsibility for handling all applications for civil legal aid and other administrative functions now done by the Law Society of Scotland.

It would also take over the assessment of a person's financial eligibility for civil legal aid, now handled by the Scottish Home and Health Department, and the bulk of criminal legal aid applications.

The courts will retain responsibility for legal aid applications in the more serious criminal cases.

Two jailed for part in bomb plot

Two men who took part in a "sinister and chilling" plot to bomb the home of a former Special Air Services Regiment officer were jailed for a total of 24 years at Manchester Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Justice Mann said that the planned explosion at the Herefordshire home of Lieutenant Colonel Brian Bate had a political object. "It is unfortunately only too common in present times and people must be deterred from attaining political ends in this way."

Peter Jordan, aged 61, a retired teacher, of St Peter's Rise, Headley Park, Bristol, was sentenced to 14 years for conspiring to cause an explosion.

William Grimes, aged 44, who is unemployed, of Cherryfield Road, Dublin, received two 10-year sentences for conspiracy and possessing explosives, to run concurrently. Jordan and Grimes admitted the charges.

A third man, Peter Lynch, aged 46, unemployed, of Runcorn Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham, who admitted failing to disclose information about an act of terrorism, was sentenced to 400 days, which the judge said would mean his immediate release after spending 13 months in jail awaiting trial.

Newscasters in Radio 2 music line-up

Richard Baker and Bob Holness, former newscasters, are joining Radio 2. They will present their own shows as part of a shake-up of the BBC network.

FA ticket curb on club must stay, judge rules

Millwall Football Club failed in its High Court attempt yesterday to lift the all-ticket restriction imposed last year by the Football Association.

Two jailed for part in bomb plot

Two men who took part in a "sinister and chilling" plot to bomb the home of a former Special Air Services Regiment officer were jailed for a total of 24 years at Manchester Crown Court yesterday.

Advertisement for 'Your invitation to a month in the country' featuring 'GOOD HOUSEKEEPING'S COUNTRY LIVING' magazine. Includes text about the magazine's content and a price of £1.

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PARLIAMENT FEBRUARY 6 1986

More tests on staff at Sellafield

ENERGY

No risk to the public was caused by the small release of plutonium radioactivity from the main reprocessing building at Sellafield, Mr Alastair Goodall, Under Secretary of State for Energy, assured MPs in the Commons.

In his statement about the leak he said tests on staff for contamination had so far shown no cause for concern. British Nuclear Fuels would carry out further tests on staff over the next few days. He later said the plant had restarted operations today (Thursday) and he hoped there would be no more discharges.

British Nuclear Fuels have reported (he said) that during maintenance operations on a pump during which air was accidentally blown across a flow of liquid with plutonium in it. This caused a mist with a small amount of plutonium in suspension.



Mr Goodall Do not close the plant

Monitoring equipment, which is extremely sensitive, gave an alarm. Staff quickly traced the source of the escape. Shut off the flow of air and instituted procedures for evacuating all non-essential staff.

A member of the nuclear installations inspectorate was on site and was notified at the time. My department and other interested Government departments were notified shortly afterwards.

The company has estimated that a very small radionuclide release from the building of 50 micro-curie may have occurred, though no release was detected by the equipment used for monitoring equipment outside the building.

The nuclear installations inspectorate has already initiated an investigation in co-operation with the radiochemicals inspectorate and will make a statement about the incident within the next few days. The company is also conducting its own enquiry into the incident.

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on environment, who had called for the statement to be made, said some radio active material had escaped into the atmosphere.

Mr Goodall (he added) discount the inevitable but unjustified calls likely to be made for the Government to close the plant, which would immediately throw 11,000 workers out of work.

Will he institute the most rigorous enquiry and ensure that its reports are available to the House and the public as soon as possible?

The Government convey to the management of British Nuclear Fuels the fact that the industry can only have a future if there is public acceptance of its activities?

The regular series of such incidents, whether serious or

not in terms of nuclear material, simply undermines public confidence in the industry.

Mr Goodall: The precise amount of the discharge will be known when the enquiry has been completed. About 30 people were evacuated and they are having medical tests. I heartily endorse Dr Cunningham's remarks about resuming any suggestion that the plant should be closed.

The report will be made public and I endorse what he said about the necessity for public confidence and I trust there will be no series of incidents.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton South, C) said it was encouraging that the management of Sellafield had a proper early warning system.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, SNP) said the EEC had described Windscale as the source of the worst radio active pollution in Europe. Assurances from British Nuclear Fuels were about as reliable as assurances from the Government. He added that this dirty and dangerous plant should be closed.

Mr Goodall replied that the company on the whole had a good record.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab) These repeated incidents at Windscale make it increasingly difficult for those of us who support nuclear power to defend it.

Mr Goodall: I do not wish to anticipate the outcome of the inquiry but I think he should keep the significance of this incident in proportion.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L) said the incident was the 300th incident with a safety failure in the last 30 years on this site. Was Mr Goodall satisfied with the site?

Mr Goodall: The site is subject to the nuclear installations inspection.

Private buyer for whole of Leyland would be welcome

INDUSTRY

A private sector buyer for the whole of BL in Britain would be very welcome, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions when Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said £2 billion of taxpayers' money had gone into the industry and the benefit would be reaped by a few multinationals.

Mr Kinnock said it was a foreign sell-out. Mrs Thatcher said the Labour government did not object when Chrysler took a majority share in Rootes.

Mr Thomas Torney (Bradford South, Lab) In view of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry's determination yesterday on the proposed sale of BL to the Americans, will she reconsider the proposals? Will she make a statement, particularly in light of the threat as outlined by him of no security for the workers of BL?

Mrs Thatcher: There will be a statement on BL from Mr Channon. Inward investment in Britain from overseas has created 100,000 new jobs and safeguarded many more and one of the objects and purposes of our entering the Common Market was so that we might attract that investment to this country.

Mr Anthony Faveil (Stockport, C) Would he remind those engaged in the UK car market that the market share of the home market has dropped from 90 per cent 25 years ago to 34 per cent now? How many job losses to suppliers such as British Steel have resulted from this abyssal performance?

Mrs Thatcher: The performance and productivity has improved but not enough yet to recover a sufficient share of the car market.

Mr John Stewart (Midlothian, Lab) How many taxpayers' subsidies has gone into the farming industry. Mrs Thatcher: The system of support changed from direct support when we went into Europe. The amount of support which comes from the taxpayer through Europe is too big but we are trying to get the surpluses down.

Labour ridicule initiative for inner cities

EMPLOYMENT

Eight inner city areas have been chosen for an initiative aimed at improving job opportunities and the quality of life, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Paymaster General and chief Commons spokesman on employment, announced in the Commons.

In the teeth of loud laughter and jeering from Labour MPs, he said he hoped the House would welcome this bold experiment which would have £3 million of additional money comprising £3 million from within the Department of Employment's existing provision and £5 million from the reserve.

Mr Clarke said small "task forces" would be established in each of the areas to work with the local authorities and local community and voluntary organisations. They would seek to attract private sector participation.

This was a concentrated and targeted effort to be led by a team of Ministers from the Departments of Employment, Education, Trade and Industry, Environment and the Home Office.

Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment, would have overall responsibility for coordination of the initiative and he (Mr Clarke) would have responsibility for its day to day management and supervision with the support of a small central unit.

The eight areas chosen were: Notting Hill and North Peckham in London; the Chapeltown area of Leeds; North Central/Middleborough; the Highfields area of Leicester; Moss Side in Manchester; St Paul's in Bristol; and Handsworth in Birmingham.

Within the chosen areas (he said) we shall try out new approaches, particularly in training provision, and employment and self-employment opportunities for local residents. This will be tackled through projects and activities of wider but direct benefit to the residents of the areas concerned and their environment.

We shall seek to stimulate enterprise and provide a strong



Geoffrey Smith

base for the local economy. We shall give special attention to the problems of young people from ethnic minorities where they are particularly disadvantaged.

He said the eight areas were not necessarily the most deprived areas in Britain's cities, but those who lived there needed more employment opportunities, support for their local business economy and a better physical environment.

Large sums were already available to the chosen areas under existing Government programmes and this initiative would complement and not replace those programmes.

Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (Kensington, C) said he was glad that the increasingly urgent problems which his borough Council had pressed on ministers, drawing attention to the special problems of Notting Hill, had borne fruit in this most imaginative response. Local authorities should be fully consulted.

Mr Clarke said it was a key part of the Government's efforts to involve quickly the local authority, the people and the MP.

Mr Richard Watlington (Colne Valley, L) asked the minister to explain the absence of any Treasury minister from the managing team, bearing in mind that the downward spiral of deprivation was largely due to false Treasury dogma. Why was there no mention of housing in the statement?

Mr Clarke said the issue was to bring together the efforts of all central Government departments more closely. He was not going into the whole business of housing policies.

Mr Michael Foot (Blancmanogue, Lab) If he wants to prove his proposals are not deservatory he will say in each area affected how much money has been withdrawn in rate support ground compared with the new money he proposes to spend. What about those areas which have had persistent chronic unemployment since 1979 and earlier where money has been taken away?

Mr Clarke agreed that some local authorities had, because of their expenditure on all these programmes, got into overspending difficulties and incurred penalties.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said it was a misuse of a statement compared to the scale of the problem in the inner cities.

Mr Clarke: The essential point he has missed is that this new initiative goes alongside all the other initiatives, policies and expenditure by this Government in all its departments.

For example, the urban programme has trebled in money terms and doubled in real terms compared with expenditure under Labour.

£1 million in each of these areas over and above the central Government money already going into them will have a most significant effect.

Thatcher backing for electricians

THE PRESS

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, congratulated any Trade Union, especially the EETPU which had abolished restrictive practices such as over-manning and had embraced the latest technology.

She told MPs during Commons questions: "That is the way to have the best and most efficient industry."

She was answering Mr Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster, C) who had said: the TUC, in its wisdom has somehow managed to find the electricians guilty of conduct unbecoming to the Trade Union Movement. He said the two unions involved in the dispute with Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of News International, had abused everything that the trade union movement should have stood for in the last 20 years.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham North-East, Lab) Has she noticed the cynical and deceitful way Mr Murdoch has cold-bloodedly over a period of months been conspiring and

Violence on television to be monitored

Further monitoring of BBC and independent television programmes over their violence content was promised by Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, after Mrs Virginia Bottomley (South West Surrey, C) referred to mounting public concern about the amount of violence seen on television screens.

Mrs Thatcher said it was because of public disquiet that Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, had called in the BBC and IBA authorities to discuss with them how they were going to alter the guidelines on violence so that they amount of violence seen was reduced.

We shall wait and see what they do (she went on) and monitor it carefully and see whether any further action needs to be taken.

Ford not now to buy Austin Rover

The possibility of the sale of Austin Rover to Ford would not be pursued, Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, announced in a Commons statement on Wednesday.

His announcement was greeted by laughter from the Opposition.

It was however the Government's intention, with the agreement of the BL board, that negotiations should be pursued for the separate privatisation of Unipart by an early placement of shares with UK institutions.

I hope (he said) the Government's decision and the mounting scepticism will leave Austin Rover free to devote their efforts to the further development and growth of their volume car business, building up the creditable progress which has already been achieved.

Labour ridicule initiative for inner cities

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Mr Clarke: The essential point he has missed is that this new initiative goes alongside all the other initiatives, policies and expenditure by this Government in all its departments.

For example, the urban programme has trebled in money terms and doubled in real terms compared with expenditure under Labour.

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Labour MP seeks aid for merchant fleet

SHIPPING

A plea to the Prime Minister to do something to ease Britain's vital merchant fleet came to the Commons from Mr Donald Dixon (Jarow, Lab).

He said during Prime Minister's questions that in recent years the number of ships in the fleet had fallen from 1,600 to about 600. The number of men working for British Shippers had dropped from 87,300 to about 10,000.

According to the news (he continued) the unions have met British Shipbuilders and

Watching the weeds grow

A farmer in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, has to sit in his cottage all day and watch the weeds grow. Mr Frank Haynes (Ashfield, Lab) told an amused House of Commons.

Mr Haynes explained during question time that the farmer wanted to work his land but the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food would not let him.

Apparently (he went on) there are certain weeds which are of scientific value, yet the farmer wants to earn his living. It is a stupid situation.

Mrs Peggy Feaser, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, told him: I am aware that there are certain plants of inestimable value, including some weeds he will write to see Mr Jones. It started with almost thirty years ago when a young seal was washed up near the cafe he ran with his wife Mary at St Agnes. Since then, his battle to save the seals has taken him to the edge of bankruptcy and involved costly battles with local authorities.

When the bathtub in his cafe and the small pool he built could no longer cope, he overcame local opposition to establish his seal sanctuary at Gweek, in the beautiful Helford estuary.

Protests at lack of smear test recall

every health authority needed to employ another person in their laboratories it would cost about the same amount.

Mrs Roper Short (Wolverhampton North East, Lab) said the Government was not proposing to have even a recall system until 1988. The minister was hiding behind his own inefficiency and the Government's refusal to provide the resources that were needed.

Mrs Elaine Kellert-Bowman (Lancaster, C) said it was unacceptable that women should be tested only for the test not to be properly followed up.

Mrs Edwina Currie (Derbyshire South, C) said the task was to get at the older women who did not know what a smear test was and did not think it applied to them.

Mr Raymond Williams, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, replying, said the Government was far from being satisfied with the present system of cervical screening for cancer. Health authorities were aware of the Government's concern.

Health criticized the prostrate competency of the Government. He said that what was needed was a comprehensive screening system covering all women at risk and it was the Government's fault Britain did not have one now.

The Government's stout condemnation. It had been shifty, complacent and not taken heed of its own expert advisers.

Throughout the country there were massive delays in laboratories processing results of tests and such delay could be vital. The Government should use its powers to ensure local authorities set up comprehensive schemes covering all women at risk now.

It should take immediate steps to ensure enough laboratory staff were recruited and trained. It should provide necessary extra funds earmarked for this purpose. Nothing less would do.

Much more needed to be done in the long term. The Government's record on cancer screening was a disgrace - a lot of words, little action and less money.

Ministers' aides pack airport Bill committee

The Government is under fire from within the Conservative ranks for packing an important Commons committee to stifle any rebellion on its Bill to privatize Britain's main airports.

MPs who act as aides to ministers not connected with aviation policy have been drafted on to the Airports Bill Committee.

They can be guaranteed not to vote against the Government because of their position as parliamentary private secretaries.

That means that of the 16-member committee, a comfortable majority will toe the government line.

One Conservative MP told *The Times* that "having got their fingers burned once" on the ill-fated Civil Aviation Bill, the Government was taking no chances.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said he withdrew the Civil Aviation Bill in December 1984.

Lone fight to save storm-lashed seals

The great Atlantic rollers, whipped up by savage winter storms, have been exacting a terrible toll among the diminishing colonies of seals which live and breed in the secret coves of Cornwall.

The storms have coincided with the breeding season and have been strongest when the new-born seals are most vulnerable. Dozens of pups have been swept off the rocks, away from their mothers on whom they are totally dependent.

Unable to feed and easy prey to gulls and other predators, most would die were it not for the efforts of a former miner who has made it his life's work to save them.

For Ken Jones, it started almost thirty years ago when a young seal was washed up near the cafe he ran with his wife Mary at St Agnes. Since then, his battle to save the seals has taken him to the edge of bankruptcy and involved costly battles with local authorities.

When the bathtub in his cafe and the small pool he built could no longer cope, he overcame local opposition to establish his seal sanctuary at Gweek, in the beautiful Helford estuary.

Acquitted miner loses plea

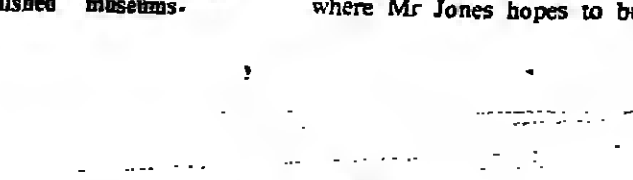
A miner who was dismissed five weeks ago after being cleared of the ambush murder of Mr David Wilkie, a taxi driver, during the coal strike has lost his claim for unfair dismissal.

Mr Anthony Williams, aged 27, was acquitted at Cardiff Crown Court last May of murder and conspiracy, but was later dismissed for gross misconduct from Markham Pit, Gwent.

At a Cardiff industrial tribunal, Mr Williams, now unemployed, of Ty-coch, Rhymney, Mid Glamorgan, claimed the decision was unreasonable as he had been cleared in court.

Mr Williams said he walked away before a concrete fence post and block were thrown off a bridge at the taxi. But Mr David Powell, the chairman, announcing the hearing's majority decision, said his conduct went beyond lawful picketing.

"He went too far in the enterprise and was with others from first to last, except while they were on the bridge to push over the concrete post and block."



Feeding time for rescued seals in the sanctuary at Gweek where Mr Jones hopes to build four new pools

Sir Robert Armstrong's appearance before the Defence Select Committee on Wednesday was an occasion of considerable political importance. He did not bring the Westland saga to an end.

That would have been impossible. But I suspect that he may have reduced the pitch of the controversy to a lower level at which it may cease to dominate public affairs as it has for the past two months.

There are a great many people who remain unconvinced by Mrs Thatcher's explanation of the leak of the Solicitor-General's letter. This is clear from the opinion polls.

I am sceptical as to whether Sir Robert will have removed many of these uncertainties. But he raised no fresh doubts. Nobody who found Mrs Thatcher's version plausible before would be likely to find it any less convincing now. No new charges emerged for the critics to pursue.

Had he stonewalled as Mr Britton did last week, the demand for further civil service witnesses to be brought before the committee would have been irresistible. But his answers to questions were meticulous, subtle and occasionally ingenious in their phrasing. He did himself and the committee credit by taking it seriously.

He has also made it much less likely that the committee will now require other officials to appear in person. Indeed, the committee now has a delicate choice, which it is wisely going to ponder.

Sir Robert appeared to draw a distinction between the attitude of officials in the Prime Minister's office and in the Department of Trade and Industry. The latter were concerned about the propriety of what they were being asked to do. The former, he seemed to imply, displayed no such constitutional sensitivity.

This might justify the committee at least calling upon Mr Bernard Ingham to give evidence before it. But when the purpose of interrogation is to elucidate a misunderstanding, would it really make much sense to question only the person at one end of the telephone? If Mr Ingham, why not Miss Colette Bowe? If the press secretaries, why not the private secretaries as well?

A reasonable case in logic could, therefore, be made for calling upon a succession of further official witnesses. But the committee has to deal in politics as well as in logic, and it has to beware of the feeling that it is over-reaching itself.

Already the criticism is becoming increasingly that the leak is really no business of the Defence Committee. A growing number of Conservative members are becoming nervous over the possible effect of the committee's activities on the party's electoral fortunes, and parliamentary opinion would certainly swing against the committee if it was thought to be indulging in a witchhunt.

Up to now the committee has asserted its authority effectively. For an obviously anxious Cabinet Secretary to be grilled for nearly three hours without a trace of bureaucratic smugness was, in its way, a landmark in the history of the select committee system.

But the House of Commons is ambivalent about its relatively new select committees. They are appreciated as a valuable addition to the armoury of the legislature.

But they also attract a fair amount of resentment, partly from the jealousy of those who are not prepared to devote their time to such work and partly because they are accused of diverting attention from the floor of the House.

Every active committee therefore has to guard against the accusation that it is getting above itself. For that reason, I suspect that after Sir Robert's performance the Defence Select Committee will, on reflection, do no more than possibly call for written evidence from Mr Ingham and perhaps Miss Bowe.

If so, that would much reduce the chances of further drama, and it is new dramatic developments not the repetition of old accusations that will be needed to keep the Westland saga running with its former intensity.

I think a stage may now have been reached when, unless something new occurs, it will no longer be the direct impact of Westland that will matter but the indirect effect upon the authority of ministers.

London and A... 1986

150 من الأصل

Spanish admiral murdered in street

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Vice-Admiral Cristóbal Colón, a direct descendant of Christopher Columbus, was assassinated in a grenade attack on his car in Madrid yesterday as he was being driven to Spanish naval headquarters.

His driver, Señor Miguel Trigo Manzo, was also killed, and an aide with him in the car, Major Antonio Rodríguez Núñez, was seriously injured.

Eye-witnesses said that a young couple — immediately suspected of belonging to ETA, the armed Basque separatist organization — fled after throwing the grenade and machine-gunning the admiral's car.

Crowds gathered near the site, chanting "We want guns against ETA." King Juan Carlos sent his condolences to the family.

Police chased a car along one of the capital's motorways into the old city centre and surrounded a building where they thought one of the killers was hiding.

Admiral Colón, aged 61, 17th Duke of Veragua, the title Spain's King bestowed on Columbus for his discoveries, and twice Grandee of Spain, was travelling from his home to headquarters, where he worked as a serving officer.

Fifty-four senior Spanish service officers have been assassinated since December, 1973, when an ETA commando in a Madrid street blew up



A Spanish Navy captain walking past the body of Vice-Admiral Colón in Madrid.

Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco, who was then Franco's Prime Minister.

General Abel Barahona, head of Spain's cultural department, has been sacked by Señor Narcis Serra, the

Defence Minister, after publication of an official army history praising the 1981 right-wing coup attempt. The minister had written a preface.

branch of the Pynduban Bank in this Basque city, damaging the building and three parked cars, police said yesterday (Reuter reports). An anonymous caller had warned the police. There were no injuries.

Museveni sticks to pledge on Cabinet

From Richard Dowden Kampala

President Museveni of Uganda has fulfilled his pledge to form a broad-based Government by bringing members from all parties, regions, and religions into his Cabinet.

Mr Paul Ssemogerere, the Democratic Party leader, retains his position as Minister for Internal Affairs, to which he was appointed by the Okello Administration last August.

The Democratic Party now has five seats in the Cabinet compared with six in the Okello Government. The Ugandan People's Congress, the party of former President Obote which was shattered in the July coup, has three members in the Cabinet.

Surprisingly, Mr Museveni met Mr Paulo Muwanga, Dr Obote's vice-president, as part of a Ugandan People's Congress delegation this week even though he had named him as being responsible for some of the atrocities committed during the Obote period. Mr Muwanga was not given a Cabinet post.

Fifteen of the 30 ministers named so far are from Mr Museveni's National Resistance Movement, but places have been found for the leaders of Freedom and the Uganda Freedom Movement, two small guerrilla organizations which fought the Obote Government but were bigger rivals of the NRM. The National Resistance Army is disarming these guerrilla groups.

The new Foreign Minister is Mr Ibrahim Mjilibi, a career diplomat who served as ambassador to Moscow, Cairo, and Denmark before resigning in 1982 in protest at the Obote Administration's human rights record.

The Cabinet is intended to be an interim one which will administer the country until a constitutional conference draws up a plan for elections.

The north of the country is still held by forces of the previous government, and the NRA's advance seems to have halted, either to allow for negotiations or to enable more NRA forces to get to the front line. It is expected that troops loyal to Brigadier Basilio Okello, the former chief of staff, will make a stand.

The Philippines election Showdown for Marcos and Aquino as troops go on red alert

From David Watts, Manila

The Philippines goes to the polls today for the most vital election in the country's history.

Throughout the country the feeling of a turning point is almost palpable, whoever turns out to be the winner.

In normal times Manila is a city of rumours, but these are not normal times and the harvest of speculation and false is richer than ever.

An air of foreboding has been heightened by an interview which President Marcos gave to local television last night. He said the Government would use "legitimate force to defend itself" if it continued to face threats of violence and vote-buying by the Opposition.

On the best evidence both charges appear to be figments of the presidential imagination.

None the less, with 51 people already killed during the campaign, with few areas free of the threat of violence from gun-toting political private armies, the Philippines armed forces are on red alert.

In this atmosphere, Senator Richard Lugar, chairman of the US Senate foreign relations committee, who is leading an observation team appointed by President Reagan, began its work yesterday.

Though greeted by a newspaper advertisement accusing

him of gunboat diplomacy, the Senator explained: "Our mission is not to judge, enforce or arbitrate — simply to observe the work of good friends." He appealed to all involved to make sure that the Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) obtains results as quickly as possible so that "all of us will know as rapidly as possible what has occurred".

His group is just part of the 60 or so foreign observers of the election, who include Mr John Hulme, the SDLP MP from Northern Ireland.

With thousands of local officials and politicians dependent on the continuation of Mr Marcos in power, the 25,000 Namfrel volunteers have a formidable task in trying to ensure an honest election. In Manila alone 600

nuns will be deployed at polling stations in the hope that their presence will deter the use of force.

Much will depend on the honesty and goodwill of Government officials from the Commission on Elections. Before each return is reported to Manila it must be verified and co-signed by both Namfrel and the Commission representative.

Namfrel succeeded in forestalling many frauds in the 1984 election because its more honest reports reached

the capital first and provided a yardstick for the subsequent Government version.

Mr Jose Concepcion, the Namfrel chairman, is under no illusion that crucial concessions have had to be made, but "if I had not done this they would have discredited us completely".

General Fidel Ramos, commander-in-chief of the Philippines constabulary and the integrated national police force, said that of the 74 provinces only nine were not designated as "hot spots" where the potential for violence and electoral fraud was high.

He said: "At no time in our history has a national decision-making process been so vital." General Ramos knows that whichever way the election goes the potential for upheaval has never been greater.

If Mr Marcos loses he may not go quietly. There are rumours of a yacht waiting in Hong Kong if he should find Mrs Corason Aquino has an unsurmountable plurality, but few believe he would take that option.

Yet if Mr Marcos wins, many people will not be inclined to believe it. The full results may not be known for a week, with a consequent dangerous spell of uncertainty and frustration.

Austrian wine trade halved after scandal

Vienna — Austrian wine exports fell by almost half last year after the discovery of the anti-freeze agent diethylene-glycol in wines (Richard Bassett writes).

A survey commissioned by the Society of Austrian Wine-growers and published yesterday shows that Austria exported only 270,000 litres of wine in 1985, compared with 478,000 in 1984.

Thirteen per cent fewer Austrians were drinking wine, and nearly a third of all wholesalers admitted that their confidence in the industry had been "shattered".

Guerrilla war alert in Ecuador

From Geoffrey Matthews Bogotá

Ecuador this week militarized its frontier with Colombia while guerrillas from both countries continued fierce hit-and-run actions over an extensive area of southern Colombia.

The Quito Government moved troops to the border as six battalions of the Colombian Army continued what military sources described as "virtual war" with guerrillas in the sparsely populated Andes of the Cauca department.

The guerrilla force, believed to number several hundred, is commanded by leaders of the Colombian,



death toll in clashes in Cauca over the last two weeks was believed to be more than 60. Ecuadorian troops took up positions along the frontier in an apparent attempt to cut off 100 guerrillas reported to be trying to enter Colombia's Southern Narino department to join up with the force led by M19.

It was also reported that three British journalists had been detained in Popayan, capital of the Cauca department, after a clandestine interview with members of a French television team.

The French were arrested in similar circumstances but later allowed to leave the country.

US pressures Athens on bases

From Mario Mediano, Athens

A high-ranking US State Department official has been in Athens this week sounding out the Socialist Government on the prospects for the cost of their improvement, or make arrangements for their transfer — probably to Turkey or Italy.

Under existing arrangements, the Greek Government may in July, 1988, exercise an option to terminate the agreement and ask the United States to dismantle the bases.

These include a support base at Athens airport, a naval communications centre at Marathon and air and naval facilities in Suda Bay, Crete.

that he would like an early reply so that, if the bases remain, the United States can budget for the cost of their improvement, or make arrangements for their transfer — probably to Turkey or Italy.

Mrs Rozanne Ridgway, Assistant Secretary of State for European affairs, told Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, and his ministers yesterday of the urgency felt in Washington over the issue.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, who is due to visit Athens next month, has made it publicly clear

the Papandreu Government is ideologically committed to removing all foreign bases from Greece. However, the Prime Minister refuses to commit himself publicly on whether he will exercise his option to remove the bases.

Mr Papandreu is known to have reassured the Americans privately that the bases will stay. But he does not wish to be rushed.

The Americans want a firmer commitment now, and the possibility that either side should denounce the present agreement to initiate a new round of interminable negotiations as a way out has been aired.

IMAGING

Image-processing technology was first applied in the 60's and 70's to create clear images of the Earth and Mars, and to locate natural resources via satellite. Yet it was Hitachi's entry into this exciting new field that made high-accuracy imaging possible. In less than ten years, Hitachi-developed systems reduced absolute location error to a world-record 80 metres. Then 30 metres. And the innovations had only just begun.

You can see where with software

Today, Hitachi's imaging skills are being applied in ever-widening variety. Remote-sensing satellite systems aid fisheries by detecting differences in ocean water temperatures and displaying likely fishing zones as colour-coded maps on CRT screens. Robots mounted on crawlers are able to move around and "see" much like humans do through combinations of cameras and computers that can calculate distances to objects.

In fact, we are constantly coming up with innovations and new applications. Most recently: A method of probing the human body with X-ray computed tomography, then reconstructing the data obtained as three-dimensional colour images of internal organs, muscles and bones.

The best of worlds is yet to come

Our vision of the future includes computerized 3-D simulations of surgical operations. Instant imaging of internal medical problems, such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases. Three-dimensional charts of inaccessible terrain. Remote mapping of Venus, Saturn, Jupiter and the other planets of our solar system. And much, much more.

We'd like you to share in the benefits of our scientific research, covering the next generation of new materials, lasers and other electronic devices. For improved business efficiency. For a higher quality of life. Two goals we've pursued for 75 years as part of our commitment to a better world through electronics.

WE BELIEVE IMAGING GIVES EYES TO HUMAN IMAGINATION

HITACHI

Pik Botha foresees day of black president ruling in South Africa

From Michael Hornsby Cape Town

A black president of South Africa is the unavoidable and inevitable outcome of the negotiating process set in train by President Botha in his speech opening the 1986 parliamentary session last week, the South African Foreign Minister, Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, said yesterday.

He told a meeting of the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Southern Africa, that he could not suggest a timetable for the process because blacks themselves did not speak with one voice and represented a variety of points of view. Nor could there be any solution if minorities were left without any protection.

"We are not in principle against the principle of one-man-one-vote," he said. "We are against the principle if it means that it would put in power a force, an agency that will again dominate others to the extent where the others will rebel and start the conflict all over again."

Mr Botha was asked at this point whether he would serve under a black president. "If in terms of the structures to be jointly agreed upon (with black leaders), that (a black president) is made possible, how can I be against it?" he replied. "I cannot go and say that we are going to share power and then try to do it my way only.

"In that power-sharing pro-



Mr "Pik" Botha gave no timetable for black rule.

then it would possibly become unavoidable that in future you might have black presidents of this country. If blacks share in the power of this country, that to me becomes an inevitable result in the future as long as minorities feel safe."

Mr Botha is regarded as the leader of the most reformist faction within the Pretoria Cabinet, and is also one of the two or three leading contenders for the succession to President Botha, who was 70 last month.

The clearest evidence of the Government's desire to share power with blacks, he said, was the President's proposal for a "national statutory council" in which black leaders "for the first time in the history of this country (would have) a direct voice in the government."

Mr Botha put a far more liberal and far-reaching gloss on the President's proposals than had his rival for the presidential succession, Mr F.W. De Klerk, Minister for National Education and powerful provincial leader of the ruling National Party in Transvaal, two days before.

He said that the National Party would maintain the compulsory racial segregation of residential areas and schools as long as it was in power. Mr Botha conceded that this was party policy "as it stands", but implied that this and all other matters would be subject to negotiation in the proposed council.

Miners die in fight

Johannesburg (Reuter) - Six black gold miners were killed and 34 were injured in tribal fighting at hostels at the Western Deep Levels mine near Johannesburg, the Anglo-American Corporation said. The mine was reported to be tense but quiet.



Police at the Gare de Lyon railway station in central Paris checking a traveller's plastic bags during intensive security measures imposed after this week's bomb attacks.

French widen bomb watch

France yesterday stepped up security throughout the capital and at airports and important rail stations across the country after bomb attacks in Paris in which 21 people were injured.

Rumours continued to circulate here yesterday linking the most recent attacks, together with two others in Paris department stores just before Christmas, to Middle East groups directly or indirectly involved in negotiations with the French Government to secure the release of four French hostages in Lebanon in return for the release of Arab terrorists imprisoned in France.

The French Government is refusing to comment on who may have been responsible for the attacks. M Laurent

Fabius, the Prime Minister, who called an emergency meeting yesterday morning of the four ministers most directly involved in the fight against terrorism, said that the Government had received no demands in relation to the French hostages in Lebanon.

With the French general election, only five weeks away, the Opposition has been quick to extract the maximum political capital out of the attacks.

M Michel Poniatowski, the Interior Minister under President Giscard d'Estaing, accused President Mitterrand of being "in part responsible" for terrorism in France because of his decision to liberate the leaders of the extreme-left French terrorist group, Action Directe, as part

of his general amnesty for political prisoners on coming to power in 1981.

A man aged 27 had his left leg amputated yesterday because of injuries received during the bombing of the FNAC sports shop in the Forum Des Halles, the largest shopping complex in Paris, on Wednesday evening. Five of the eight others injured in the blast are still in hospital, but were said yesterday to be in no danger.

The attack followed two other Paris bomb attacks - one at the Gilbert Jeune book shop in the heart of the Latin Quarter on Tuesday evening, in Paris-Prince it is plain that the 34-year-old President and his family and advisers are in some turmoil.

Greece, Spain and Switzerland have announced their refusal of requests from the President for sanctuary. The spread of this news and the idea that the President has considered making a run for it are bound to be damaging. He looks increasingly a prisoner in the palace where he has lived most of his life.

Part of his unpopularity lies in the return to a position of great influence of Haiti's mixed-race elite, who are about 5 per cent of the six million population.

The President's father, Papa Doc Duvalier, was initially popular because he wrested power from the black majority when he took over in 1957. This struck an important chord, a reminder of the country's birth when black slaves threw out their French masters in 1804 and set up the world's first black republic.

Jean-Claude Duvalier's marriage in 1980 to Michèle Bennett, one of the elite, was opposed in palace circles because it was felt that this would provide the mixed-race minority with access to power, and a return to former prominence, undoing the work of Papa Doc.

Leading article, page 13

EEC farm prices may be frozen

The European Commission has proposed a virtual freeze on next season's agricultural prices in an attempt to discourage further over-production.

The Commission has proposed: A £3.30 levy per tonne on all cereals marketed, except for the first 25 tonnes per farmer; 5 per cent and 9 per cent cuts respectively in the prices of feed wheat and feed barley; a price freeze applying only to bread-making wheat and malted barley; and restrictions on the quantities sold to EEC stores by grain and beef farmers when market prices are unattractive.

● LONDON: Mr Simon Gournay, deputy president of the National Farmers Union, yesterday estimated that the proposed measures would cut farm gate prices for wheat and barley by 12 and 15 per cent respectively (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

While he said he favoured an element of price restraint and acknowledged the need to place the emphasis on better quality grains, the proposed co-responsibility levy would be very difficult to administer and very easy to evade.

Miss Ann Davison, of the Consumers in the European Community Group, described the levy as a "bread tax", saying the price of bread was already artificially high because of levies on imported wheat.

A conference in London this week was told that the cost of the common agricultural policy had risen in real terms by 10 years and was at present equivalent to nearly £2 a day per family of four.

Dissident 'expelled as a spy'

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Mr Anatoly Shcharansky is to be released by the Soviet Union because he is a convicted spy and traitor and not because he is a Jewish dissident, according to Victor Louis, the Moscow-based journalist.

Mr Louis, often fed information by the Soviet authorities, said he had learned in the West, told the Israeli newspaper *Yediot Aharonot*, that Mr Shcharansky was being expelled rather than being granted an exit visa.

According to Mr Louis's Soviet sources, the US wanted Dr Andrei Sakharov included in the spy swap, but this was rejected because he was not considered a spy.

Mr Shcharansky, however, was convicted of handing confidential documents to a correspondent of *The New York Times*, including details of experiments into parapsychology, codes on secret Soviet post office boxes and addresses of scientific and military installations.

"From our point of view Shcharansky is a spy," Mr Louis was told. "On the basis of that, we are releasing him and not because he is a Jewish activist."

The journalist said Mr Shcharansky was still not aware of his imminent release. But it seems his wife, Avital, was told he was to be freed several days before rumours began to circulate - she left her Jerusalem home and went into hiding.

The Israeli Government said it has no official word on his release.

Because he was convicted of spying for the United States, he may be flown directly there.

Trial plea in Walesa case fails

Warsaw (Reuter) - Poland's Supreme Court yesterday rejected a plea by lawyers representing the Solidarity leader, Mr Lech Walesa, that a lower court should handle his forthcoming trial on charges of slandering officials.

Mr Walesa's lawyers had said that the trial should be held in a lower court because the gravity of his charges did not warrant a hearing by the higher, provincial court.

But the Supreme Court ruled that the trial, on February 11, must be held in the Gdansk provincial court, a court spokesman said. Mr Walesa is accused of slandering election officials by disputing official voting figures.

The Government has indicated charges against him could be dropped if he stated he had not intended to defame election officials.

Senate blocks Husain \$1.5bn arms package

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The Reagan Administration has postponed indefinitely its proposed \$1.5 billion (£1 billion) arms sale to Jordan after being told bluntly by the Senate foreign relations committee it would be rejected in the Senate.

The decision was taken to prevent a bitter fight between Congress and the White House and save King Husain from humiliation. Nevertheless, the King is bound to feel slighted, especially after Administration assurances that it considered his arms requests legitimate.

The Reagan Administration insisted last October that the sale was "essential to create the conditions for a lasting Middle East peace."

But the Senate, with its large pro-Israeli majority, insisted that Jordan must take the initiative in opening direct talks with Israel before any arms deal could be considered.

As originally proposed by the White House, the arms package included advanced F16 fighter planes and mobile Hawk air defence missiles, totalling \$1.9 billion. The White House then withdrew the missiles, lowering the value to \$1.5 billion. But more than 80 senators and 270 members of the House of Representatives had pledged to oppose the package.

Traders harden defiance in Haiti

From Trevor Fishlock Port-au-Prince

President-for-life Jean-Claude Duvalier was fighting to retain control of Haiti yesterday. His position was undermined by continued resistance in the business community and the spread of news that he had been refused asylum by three European countries.

It, as seems to be happening, Haiti's commercial class is hardening its defiance, his dictatorship looks increasingly unstable.

The President (Baby Doc) is using tough measures to force businessmen who have shut their shops and factories to re-open. But the very harshness of these measures is evidence of his desperation. Businessmen who stay closed are held to be unpatriotic and can be jailed for five months, fined, and their businesses seized.

It is hard to gauge the extent of the resistance. Many offices and shops are closed, others open. Some businessmen are leading a fine line between defiance, which requires considerable courage, and compliance.

Some tell the authorities they are afraid to open because of the threat of violence in the tense atmosphere. Some are opening, but with an evident lack of enthusiasm. Tommas Macoute are in the streets, brandishing guns and exuding menace.

The opposition of the commercial class is a significant aspect of the unravelling of the Duvalier regime. Last month, in a carefully worded letter, the *Association des Industries d'Haiti* wrote to the President saying it was impossible for businessmen to play a full role in "a climate of tension and fear". Urging the introduction of democracy, the association said: "It is impossible for us to ignore the discontent tearing Haitian society apart."

While there can only be speculation about what is happening behind the walls of the Duvalier palace in Port-au-Prince, it is plain that the 34-year-old President and his family and advisers are in some turmoil.

Greece, Spain and Switzerland have announced their refusal of requests from the President for sanctuary. The spread of this news and the idea that the President has considered making a run for it are bound to be damaging. He looks increasingly a prisoner in the palace where he has lived most of his life.

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Leading article, page 13

Moscow throws out two Italians

Rome (UPI) - Two Italians have been expelled from Moscow in a tit-for-tat response to Italy's expulsion of two Soviet officials for spying, Soviet officials and Italian sources said yesterday.

Sources here said that the expelled Italians were Signor Luigi Mamiolo, aged 29, First Secretary at the Italian Embassy in Moscow since 1983, and Signor Marco Vianello, who has represented the Italian steel-making group Finisider here for 10 years.

Italy had expelled a Soviet Embassy official and the station chief of the Soviet Airline Aeroflot. France expelled four Soviet diplomats from Paris on Saturday. In retaliation, the Soviet Union ordered four French diplomats to leave Moscow.

204 rebels die

Khartoum (Reuter) - Sudanese troops killed 204 rebels of the Ethiopian-backed Sudan People's Liberation Army who attacked their convoy carrying garrison pan and supplies 550 miles south of Khartoum, military officials said.

Police purge

Guatemala City (UPI) - Three weeks after taking office, President Vinicio Cerros dissolved Guatemala's feared secret police and said he would prosecute officers suspected of human rights abuses.

Farm suicide

Waynesboro, Georgia (UPI) - Mr Lennard Hill, 67-year-old farmer unable pay a \$62,000 (£44,000) delinquent tax bill, shot himself just 20 minutes before his 711-acre farm was to be auctioned at the court house.

Spy flight

Havana (AP) - Genie Raul Castro, the brother Cuba's President, interrupted the Communist Party congress here with the announcement that the United States had sent a spy plane to Cuba.

Japan alert

Tokyo (AP) - Two Japanese Self-Defence Force jets were scrambled to see if suspected Soviet aircraft which violated air space near the northern island of Hokkaido, the Defence Agency said.

Titanic Bill

Washington (AP) - A bill aimed at encouraging national co-operation to reconstruct the wreck of the Titanic, discovered last September, has been introduced in the US Senate.

Leftists jailed

Naples (Reuter) - Members of Italy's left-wing urban guerrilla group Pro Linea, convicted of robbery and murder, have been jailed for a total of 103 years. Prima Linea carried out a series of robberies and murders during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Study craze

Peking (AP) - Chi college graduates spend their time learning on their jobs well rather than going abroad for advanced degrees, the *People's Daily* said, complaining that nomic reforms had led "studying craze".

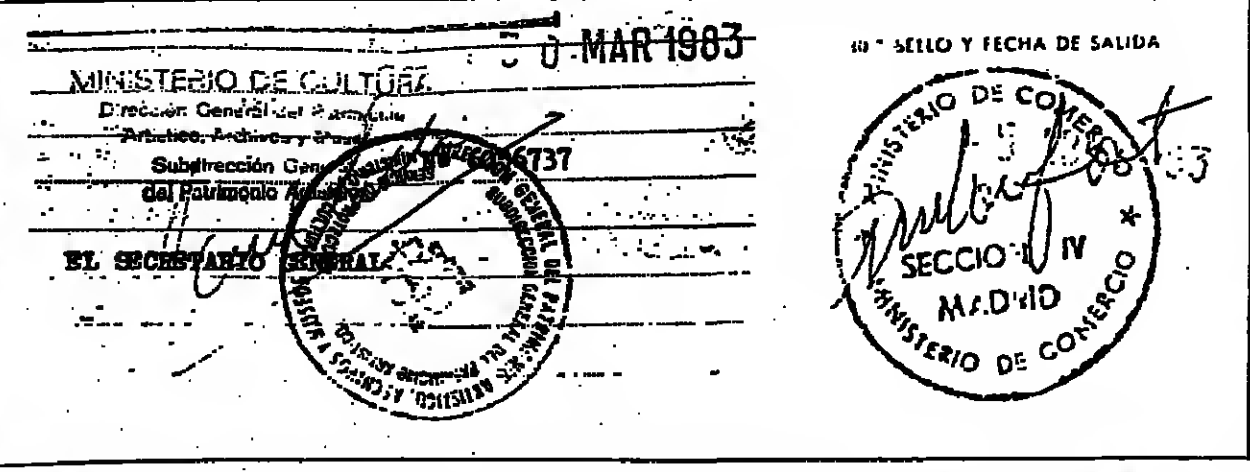
Spain steps up fight to recover Goya portrait

By Geraldine Norman and Richard Wigg

Evidence of how export documents may have been falsified when Goya's masterpiece, the "Marquesa de Santa Cruz", left Spain in 1983 emerged yesterday. The Spanish authorities are attempting to recover the picture, which they say was illegally exported, before it is auctioned by Christie's in London on April 11.

The painting was flown from Madrid to Zurich in April 1983 by Señor Pedro Saorin, a Spanish businessman. It was then bought by Lord Wimborne's agent for "a significant" but undisclosed price. Commenting on documents which Lord Wimborne now has in his possession and which have been shown to *The Times*, the senior official at Spain's Ministry of Culture, said that one of them bore the name of a non-existent government department.

In another announcement the ministry gave the name of the lawyer currently acting on its behalf as Señor Rodrigo Uria. This was the man whose name Lord Wimborne's agents have been negotiating for the past 18 months. "We gave him copies of the export documents," Lord Wimborne said. Secret negotiations were conducted in Paris with Señor Uria for the repurchase of the



The signatures on Lord Wimborne's export documents. Left, the Ministry of Culture rubber stamp and signature which appear at the bottom of a Ministry of Education and Science document and, right, the stamp and the signature on the licence itself issued by the Ministry of Economics and Commerce.

Education and Science Directorate general of fine arts. However, the rubber stamp over which the form has been signed is of the Ministry of Culture.

The signature over the rubber stamp has not yet been deciphered and it is unclear whether it is forged.

Señor Sastrategui, detailing the procedure, said that for a work of art such as Goya's painting to have been exported legally "at least" three accompanying official documents were required, all with the appropriate stamps and authorized signatures.

The painting should have

first had the "expediente" (file) approved by the Culture Ministry's director-general of fine arts after receiving the written approval of a special fine arts committee set up to evaluate works of art more than 100 years old before they can leave the country.

There was no such approval from the Ministry of Culture, he said categorically.

The file would then pass to the Economics and Finance Ministry for a second authorization and thirdly there would have to be a separate signed declaration that the export was in order from Spanish Customs.

It was disclosed that Madrid had engaged lawyers headed by Sir Matthew Farrer in London to advise it in the case. Asked about Lord Wimborne's reported remarks that he was awaiting an offer for the Goya from the Spanish Government, Señor Sastrategui observed: "Those may be his words, but he goes on keeping that painting in Christie's sale catalogue."

According to reports in Madrid, Señor Saorin, who handled the export of the painting, is now in prison in Buenos Aires, facing fraud charges relating to other matters.

Shuttle inquiry switched

From Mobsin Ali Washington

Investigations into the explosion on board the shuttle Challenger were yesterday moved to Washington for the first public meeting of President Reagan's special commission on the disaster.

The day-long session of the 13-member panel, headed by Mr William Rogers, the former Secretary of State and former Attorney-General, was due to hear from NASA's interim board of inquiry into the January 28 explosion.

The panel has to give its final report to President Reagan within 120 days. It is being assisted by NASA.

Meanwhile, search crews working off Cape Canaveral are trying to identify a large metal object 1,100 feet under water which NASA experts think might be a large section of the starboard booster rocket that flared irregularly before Challenger exploded.

Recovery of the booster would be invaluable to the investigation because it is thought a flaw, perhaps in the seals between the rocket's fuel segments or at the point where the segments were joined, may have allowed a flame to leak out.

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González faces uphill battle to win backing for Nato membership

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Senor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, now has little more than five weeks of uphill campaigning before him to persuade a majority of his fellow countrymen to vote "Yes" to Spain's membership of Nato. Parliament approved a referendum on Wednesday night, and King Juan Carlos endorsed it yesterday.

The lines of battle were drawn in the vote: 207 for, 103 against, with the Basque and Catalan regionalists abstaining. Only the Communists, who will now be campaigning for a "No" vote, and the tiny Centre Party of the former Prime Minister, Adolfo Suárez, which so wanted the referendum, are making up their minds. The right-wing Opposition, which really wants to go further than the Government to integrate Spain completely into Nato's military structure, voted "No", declining González's offer to lay the basis of a future common defence policy for Spain. It will campaign to induce supporters to abstain on March 12.

"Many will be voting 'Yes'

who are against Nato and many will be voting 'No' who are for Nato," was the vivid summing up of the debate by Senor Miquel Roca, the Catalan leader, who confessed that he was still not sure what were the Prime Minister's real motives for holding a referendum.

Senor González has often confessed that he has



Senor Felipe González: his motives doubted

changed his mind about belonging to the Atlantic Alliance, and pleaded with the Spanish people to do likewise. He had to endure quotations from many of his past speeches against Nato, however, from Senor Manuel

Fraga, the opposition leader. But the Opposition nowhere probed what lies behind the Government's three conditions: non-integration into Nato's military structure, non-nuclear status for Spain, and a progressive reduction by the United States of its troops on Spanish soil.

With Spain's Socialist leadership converted to Nato and the opposition long convinced of Spain's need of it, but anxious now to inflict a humiliating defeat on Senor González in a general election year, the whole debate had a confused air.

It proved a relief to get away into Madrid's icy streets where anti-Nato demonstrators, overwhelmingly young people, at least were saying what they believed, however simplistically.

Almost everything has been left to the Spanish people to decide. *La Vanguardia*, the Barcelona daily newspaper, suggested even before the debate began that the best hope now is for the ordinary citizen to rescue the politicians from the mess they have got themselves into over Nato.



Sunni Muslim militiamen standing guard over the UN helicopter brought down by a hail of gunfire east of the southern Lebanese port city of Sidon.

Hail of militia gunfire downs UN helicopter

Beirut (AP) - The Italian pilot of a UN helicopter brought down in south Lebanon said yesterday that a hail of militia gunfire forced him to make an emergency landing that set his craft on fire.

It was the first time that Lebanese militia had shot down a UN helicopter since the nine-nation UN Interim Force in Lebanon was sent on a peacekeeping mandate to South Lebanon in 1978.

"Our planes have been shot at by various militias in war-torn Lebanon many times in the past. But this is the first time that gunfire forced a

crash landing of a UN helicopter," Unifil spokesman Mr Timur Goksel said.

Captain Dino Disanto said in South Lebanon's port city of Sidon after his release yesterday that the helicopter's engine, cockpit and starter were riddled with bullets when he made the emergency landing in a valley east of the city on Wednesday.

Captain Disanto was speaking at the Sidon headquarters of the Islamic Coalition Movement, a fundamentalist Sunni Muslim faction which claimed its fighters shot

down the UN craft by mistake. The group held the six crew and passengers of the helicopter for eight hours before turning them over to the UN officials. An Islamic Coalition communiqué said that the three Italian crewmen and three Scandinavian passengers were handed over "safe and unharmed". They said their men had mistaken the craft for a South Lebanon Army helicopter.

Mr Goksel said that the passengers were the Finnish captain of the Finnish battalion, its paymaster and the Swedish battalion postmaster.

Captain Disanto said his helicopter was on a regular flight from Beirut to Unifil's headquarters at the Lebanese border town of Naqurah when it was lashed by a windstorm west of Sidon and forced to veer eastward.

The freed peacekeepers headed overland to the Unifil's French battalion headquarters in Mtsarkeh, east of Lebanon's southernmost city of Tyre, where they spent the rest of the night after their release. They arrived for debriefing at Naqurah yesterday.

Pope's visit to India

Plea for dialogue with all faiths

From Michael Hamlyn, Goa

The Pope yesterday renewed his appeal for unity among Christian denominations, while his staff were at the same time stressing that the new emphasis in the Pope's attitude was on dialogue with non-Christian religions.

The Pope's chief spokesman, Mr Joaquin Navarro Valls, pointed out as the Pope was speaking that his emphasis on dialogue with the non-Christians was a new strategy. "It is 20 years since the Second Vatican Council," said Mr Navarro. "And from then we have been working on ecumenism, on dialogue with other Christian confessions - Anglicans, Lutherans, and so on. That should continue."

"But the Holy Father feels that this is not enough. What is needed now is a profound dialogue with all the faiths of the world, so that we can agree on the main issues of man and mankind."

The Pope, in the course of remarks made at a celebration at Mangalore in the south Indian state of Karnataka, again urged Indians of faiths other than Christian to unite in dialogue. He said to representatives of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and Parsees that their presence meant that they recognized "the need for all religious traditions to join hands against the forces which militate against the human and spiritual dignity of human beings".

Earlier, at Goa, he concentrated on the unity of Christians, saying that the past and present divisions among them were "a scandalous contradiction of the will of Christ, a serious obstacle to

the Church's efforts to proclaim the gospel."

He said that the work of ecumenism demanded constant effort, and that it began with the "primary unity" that already existed because of baptism.

"But we must be eager to work for the fullness of unity among the followers of Christ," he said at an early morning Mass on the banks of the River Mandovi. He praised the progress that had been achieved already.

In fact, Goa was a slightly odd place at which to be preaching about Christian unity. It was the first place to be converted by Roman Catholic missionaries from Europe and, since the first of the Portuguese arrived in 1500, has maintained a solidly Roman Catholic loyalty. The Archbishop of Goa was created patriarch of all the east Indian churches in the last century, and the number of Protestants in the territory would scarcely fill a Methodist chapel.

The Goan Catholics revere St Francis Xavier, the Jesuit missionary who arrived here in 1542 and whose mortal remains are in the Basilica of Dom Jesus in Old Goa. They go on public view every 12 years so that the faithful may marvel at the miraculous lack of corruption after 432 years.

The Pope will meet Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is also beginning a tour of India, at the weekend in Bombay.

When the Pope sent letters to the heads of other faiths inviting them to preach together on the peace of the world, Dr Runcie was the first to agree to come.

Spielberg film in the running for Oscar

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Steven Spielberg's first serious dramatic film, *The Colour Purple*, which has a cast of unknowns, and the \$30 million (£20 million) saga *Out of Africa*, starring Meryl Streep and Robert Redford, are front-runners for the 58th annual Oscar on March 24. Each picture has gathered 11 nominations.

However, Spielberg, even though he is one of the most successful directors in Hollywood history, has been overlooked personally, despite the many nominations for his film. Based on Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, it has received nominations for best actress (newcomer Whoopi Goldberg), best film, and best supporting actress, as well as other technical nods.

Out of Africa, based on the book by Karen Blixen, is nominated for best film, best director (Sydney Pollack), best actress (Meryl Streep, who has won two best actress trophies already), and best supporting actor, for Klaus Maria Brandauer.

Perhaps the most intriguing race is shaping up in the best actress category. Streep faces Goldberg, Ann Bancroft as the Mother Superior in *Agnes of God*, Jessica Lange as the Country and Western singer Patsy Cline in *Sweet Dreams*, and Geraldine Page as the elderly mother in the low-budget,



Whoopi Goldberg leading a cast of unknowns, highly acclaimed *Trip to Italy*.

In the best actor category the front-runner is Jack Nicholson, for his role as the dumb but likable hit man in *Prizzi's Honour*. Also in contention are Harrison Ford for his role in *Witness*; James Garner in *Murphy's Romance*; William Hurt in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*; and Joe Voight in *Runaway Train*.

Prizzi's Honour, a black comedy directed by John Huston, also earned a best film and best director nomination, plus best supporting actress nomination for Huston's daughter, Angelica, and best supporting actor nomination for William Hickock, as the ageing Mafia don. Sir Richard Attenborough's *Chorus Line*, received three nominations.

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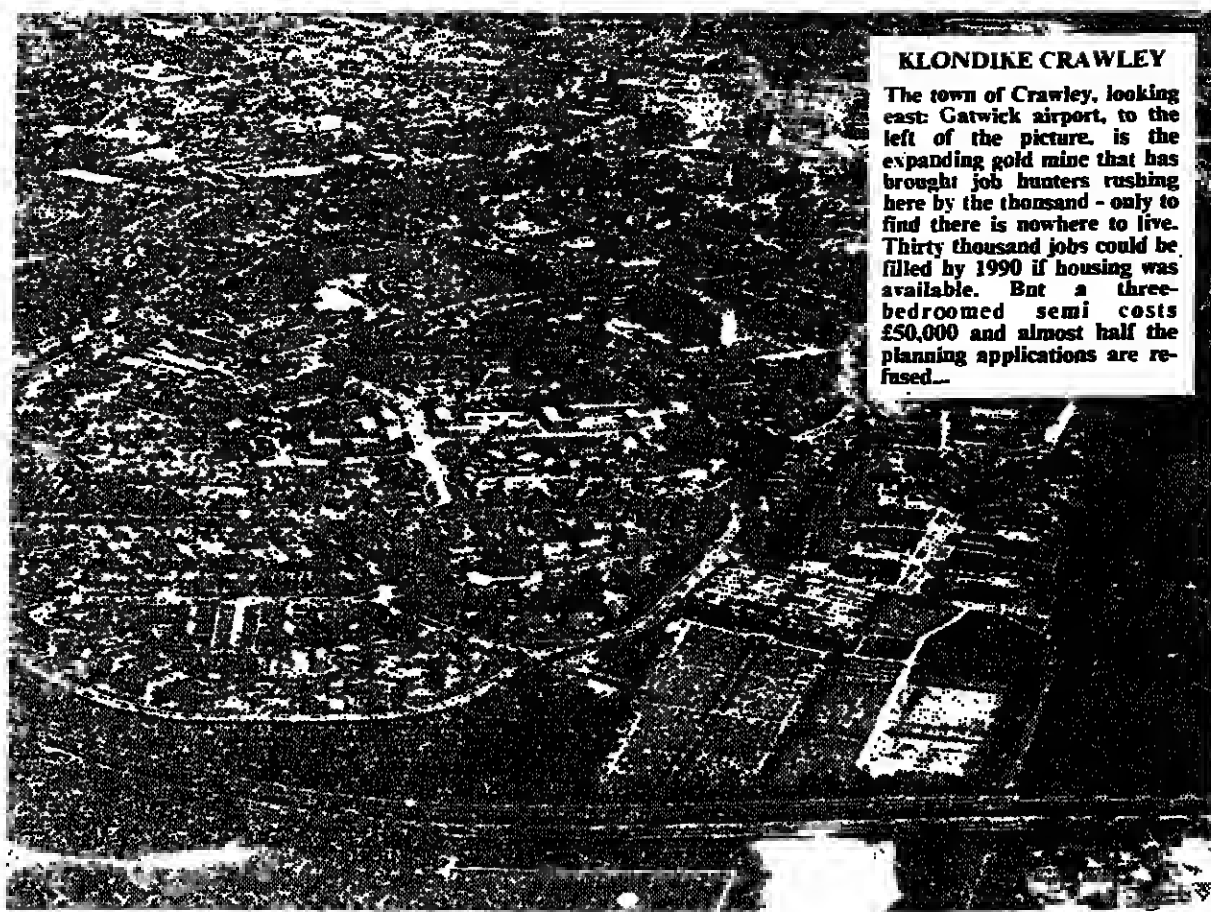


سكوا من الأصل

As unemployment tops 3.4 million for the first time, some firms in the Green Belt are crying out for staff

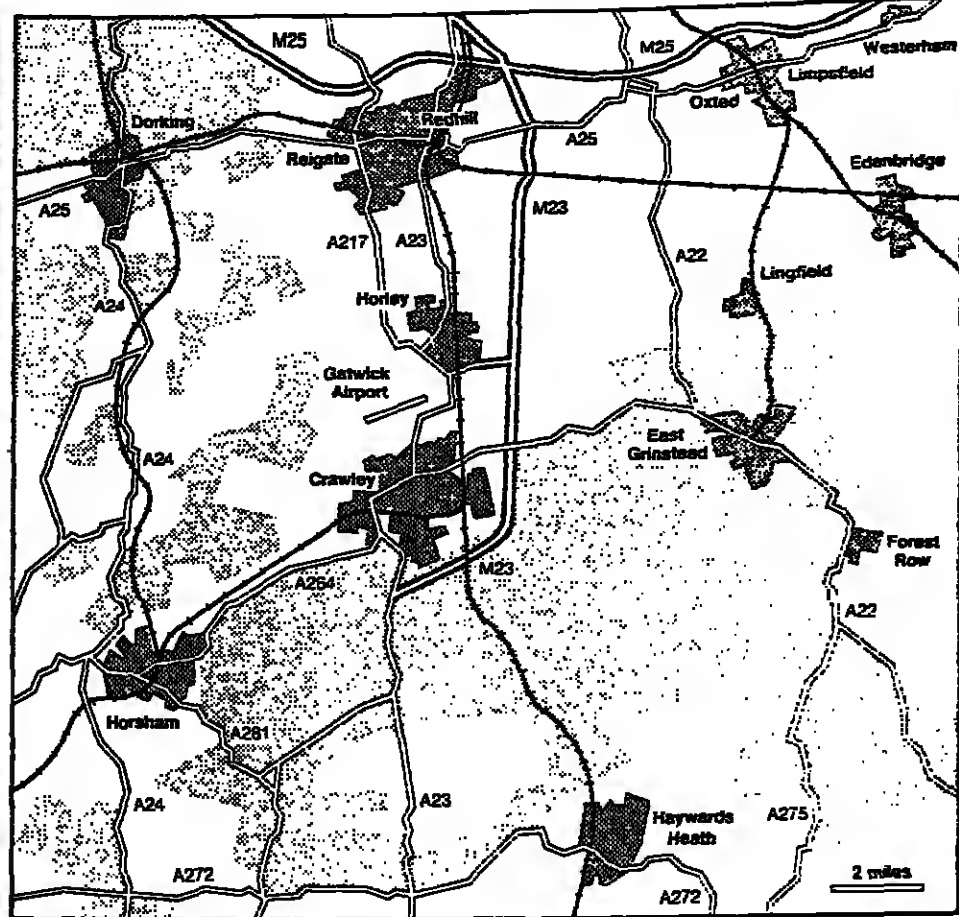
The green and pleasant boom town

Gatwick airport has brought jobs galore to the Sussex Downs. But, as William Greaves reports, expansion is creating its own problems



KLONDIKE CRAWLEY

The town of Crawley, looking east, Gatwick airport, to the left of the picture, is the expanding gold mine that has brought job hunters rushing here by the thousand - only to find there is nowhere to live. Thirty thousand jobs could be filled by 1990 if housing was available. But a three-bedroom semi costs £50,000 and almost half the planning applications are refused.



While the rest of Britain sadly digested last week's disclosure that unemployment had topped the 3.4 million mark for the first time, John Skipper could not resist a wry smile at the irony of it all. Mr Skipper is personnel and training manager of a Sussex firm which employs 1,200 people. "I could take on another 100 if I could find them," he said. And thereby hangs a tale. It is a tale guaranteed to reduce the dispirited job hunters of Liverpool, Tyneside, Scotland and South Wales to tears of impotent rage. Draw a circle of some dozen miles radius around Crawley and you identify a region with a unique problem in present day industrial Britain: its unemployment figure is too low. Mr Skipper's firm, Rediffusion Simulation, makes flight simulators for airline pilot training. It is one of scores of companies based in Crawley and spawned by nearby Gatwick Airport whose expansion plans are currently frustrated by a chronic lack of manpower. "Some of the vacancies are for software technicians of whom there is a national shortage", he admits, "but most are for the sort of craftsmen who would snap up an opportunity like this anywhere else in the country."

Cynics would claim that this is one more example of a redundant national workforce being prepared to shed their roots and go out in search of a pay packet. They would be wrong. Thousands have made the pilgrimage to Crawley, undergone agonies of interview and the mill of selection, only to be confronted by the cruel truth - there is nowhere for them to live. Despite Gatwick's status as the sixth busiest international airport in the world and Crawley's explosion into a new town of 1,000 people, both are surrounded by green and gracious countryside, sandwiched between the noble scenery of the North and South Downs. The battle lines are drawn. Mid Sussex, an area of determined hostility whose arguments hit to have usually revolved around the price of farmland and the cost of a monthly season ticket to the City, is bracing itself for a conflict which many believe will prove to be the environment's very own rmgageddon. The industrial lobby claims at least there is a fast and furious housebuilding programme. 30,000 new jobs will go

begging in the next five years; that the existence of Gatwick Airport is an incontrovertible fact, that commercial growth is inevitable and that it is far better to plan for it than to allow small towns and villages to be spoilt by piecemeal developments. A rigid adherence to Green Belt policies is, they say, at best insensitive and at worst immoral.

"If we give in now we might as well pack in the Green Belt"



Sir Peter Horder, MP

The environmentalists are unimpressed. It is, they reply, precisely this kind of shortsighted and pre-emptive commercial power play that the Green Belt was constituted to oppose; that if it gave way once the end result would be a swathe of concrete from Croydon to Brighton; that there is no reason to believe that Crawley's prosperity will be any

longer-lived than Liverpool's, Glasgow's or Newcastle's. The arguments have, of course, a familiar ring. Many of them have been trotted out wherever a new airport is planned, a new road projected or a new town positioned. On two counts, however, Crawley and its environs are dangerously different. First, it is not a plan; it is already there. Second, the battle statistics are not comparative but superlative. The national unemployment figure is the worst ever. At 5 per cent, Crawley's unemployment level is the smallest of any town in Britain. The commercial growth potential of the Crawley area is greater than anywhere else in the country.

There is another difference, too. Just for a change the environmentalists and the planners are on the same side. Between October 1984 and September last year 45 per cent of all residential planning applications in central Sussex (the area around Crawley and Horsham) were turned down, compared with an average of only 26 per cent nationwide. And although the average number of house completions in the area between 1978 and 1984 was 2,600 a year, there are plans to reduce this figure to 1,500 a year by 1991.

The pro-industry brigade, led into battle by a group calling itself Gatwick 2000, gaze upon these figures in fury and taunt their opponents with accusations of complacency and "I'm all right, Jack" attitudes. "Employment has got to be the biggest consideration of all", insists Mr Bill Ashpole, British

Caledonian airline manager and chairman of Gatwick 2000. "Anyone out of work has an abysmal environment, however many green fields there are around him. Firms here are capable of generating employment and they are here because Gatwick is here and their customers are here - it's no use telling them to move to a depressed area. We don't want to see a ribbon of houses all the way from Crawley to Horsham - that would be a mistake. All that's needed is to take one village and to build it up into a proper new community with all the necessary back-up facilities."

Bill Ashpole's view that Green Belt regulations were introduced to prevent opportunist development of agricultural land and to stop marring of the countryside, not as an artificial obstruction to commercial expansion, is shared by Mr Stuart Milner, principal of Crawley College of Technology and chairman of Crawley Industrial Group. "What we should be asking ourselves is where Crawley is going in the next 10 or 20 years, thinking about it and planning for it. It's no good chanting 'No encroachment' when encroachment is inevitable. So let's do it properly instead of in bits and pieces, and if Wimpey

or McAlpine want to build large housing developments let it be a condition that they put in the roads, the village hall and the rest of the infrastructure that a new community needs."

None of which impresses Sir Peter Horder, Conservative MP for Horsham. He agrees readily enough that a lot of people in other parts of the country would like to come and live in his constituency but insists: "If we give in now we might as well pack in the Green Belt policy altogether. A plan has been put forward to develop 100,000 acres at Southwater, a very lovely area near here. It is my belief that developments like this ought to be taking place in the docklands and out at Tilbury rather than flogging my part of the country all the time."

"This boom in the South-east may not last forever and if it subsides we could have devastated the area in order to create a ghost town. As it is, there are parts of Sussex 25 or 30 miles away which are crying out for development - with improved roads and communications people could live there and travel here to work."

In an area of fast rising house prices - they were up by 13 per cent last year and are expected to rise even more in 1986 - estate agents say that they would have no difficulty in selling twice the stock currently available. At first sight, therefore, it was strange to find one of them, Mr David Spreadborough, Crawley office manager of Turner, Rudge and Turner, siding with Sir Peter Horder and "the greens". "A very modest three-bedroom

semi on a housing estate is selling now for just under £50,000. If more were built they would probably be still beyond the range of a worker selling up in, say, South Shields; and who's to say that they wouldn't be snapped up by commuters currently paying even more than that for similar accommodation in Godalming or Leatherhead in the real stockbroker belt?"

"There are parts of Sussex crying out for development"

"A client of ours recently moved to Darlington. He sold a two-bedroom end-terrace house here for £43,000 and found a three-bedroom detached house there for £35,000. Imagine the shock of doing that move in the opposite direction."

Yet still the figures speak for themselves. On just one day in August, last year, the job centres of West Sussex had on their books 3,355 unfilled vacancies and there were another 3,122 on the same day in south Surrey - the sort of statistics which would be unthinkable in most other parts of the country.

Should parts of mid-Sussex's green and pleasant land be sacrificed to a national clamour for jobs or should the beauty surrounding such towns as Horsham, Haywards Heath and East Grinstead be protected for the fortunate people who already enjoy its company? Put another way: is there a Solomon in the house?

CRAWLEY IN COMPARISON

HOUSING	
Planning applications received (Oct 84-Sept 85):	626 dwellings
Planning applications approved in same period:	343 dwellings
Percentage approved:	55 per cent
Percentage approved in England:	74 per cent
Number of households in region (1961)	53,000
(1981)	109,000
(1986 projected)	132,000
Housing completions (average 1978-1984)	2,600 per year
(estimated average 1984-1991)	1,850 per year
(estimated average 1991-1996)	1,500 per year
MAJOR HOUSING PROJECTS:	
Maldenwater Estate, Crawley	3,500 houses
(Final planning application pending but likely to be approved)	
Southwater village, near Horsham	8,000 houses
(Proposed by local house agents, opposed by Sir Peter Horder MP, West Sussex County Council, Horsham District Council and local residents)	
EMPLOYMENT	
Jobs filled in region (1971)	108,000 (Gatwick 9,000)
(1982)	121,900 (14,100)
(1986 - County Council low estimate)	125,400 (21,000)
(1986 - County Council high estimate)	145,000 (23,000)
(Crawley and District Industrial Association believes an additional 30,000 jobs could be filled by 1990 if sufficient housing was available.)	
HOUSE PRICES	
1976 : 3-bed semi on Crawley housing estate	£13,000
1986 : Same property	£50,000

SATURDAY

The weekend starts here



Paperback writer

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Marathon men selling the Games

In just five months Edinburgh hosts the Commonwealth Games but sponsors are still being sought

Long before the first athletes leave their starting blocks in the 13th Commonwealth Games, which open in Edinburgh on July 24, the organizers will have completed their own grueling private marathon.

The games will be the biggest the Commonwealth has held and the first to be staged without any financial lifeline from the Government. A minimum £10m has to be raised from sponsors but with five months to go, and after four years of planning, contracts worth only £5.5m have been signed. The consortium selling the event as a promotional package to industry and commerce remains "perfectly confident" that the funds are in the pipeline with a good chance of reaching the original target of £12m.

Maurice Griffiths, director of the consortium, said that sponsors often waited until the last moment before clinching a deal. "What we are offering is a worldwide television audience of 1,000 million. The outside broadcasting event of the year and the most intensive media coverage", he said. Even so there have been several nerve-racking moments: an event on which so much public attention is focused may be useful for promoting a company, but it can also be used to promote a cause. Protests against apartheid that led to the blacking of television coverage of the Dairy Crest Games in the city might have damaged the attraction to sponsors of linking their product to a sport.



across nearly half the United States", Griffiths said. Two tiers of advertising hoardings will stand unavailably in the sweep of the television cameras at Meadowbank and the other sporting venues and advertising banners will line the marathon route. Luxurious hospitality suites costing up to £30,000 each overlook the Meadowbank track and most have been taken. Sports still seeking a sponsor are boxing, shooting and cycling plus two days each of swimming and bowling events.

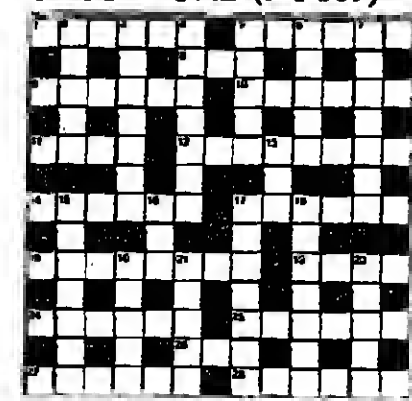
The games will bring a bonanza to the city of Edinburgh with an estimated two million visitors during the 10 days of competition. The Edinburgh International Festival with its tattoo and fringe follow a week later, maintaining the momentum. To date 50 of the 58 Commonwealth countries have accepted the invitation to take part and about 2,900 athletes will compete in the largest and most representative games ever. Alongside the athletics will be a Commonwealth cultural festival centred on the Princes Street Gardens. Each country taking part will contribute with its national music, dance or arts.

"It does mean a great deal to the city", said Kenneth Borthwick, a former Lord Provost and long-serving district councillor. "I was involved when Edinburgh last

Price Waterhouse In the article "Whisper campaign to stop shoplifting" (Spectrum, January 17) there was a reference to a report by accountants Price Waterhouse. The report referred to was not in fact one approved by Price Waterhouse and the conclusions derived from it in the article were neither reached nor endorsed by them.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 869)

- ACROSS
- 1 Hamlet jester (6)
 - 5 Extravagant (6)
 - 8 Helena (3)
 - 9 Very happy (6)
 - 10 Sudden (9)
 - 11 Curve (4)
 - 12 Rochester's lover (4,4)
 - 14 Swengali novel (6)
 - 17 Leap (6)
 - 19 Marine raider (8)
 - 22 Dollar (4)
 - 24 Put on (6)
 - 25 Spat (6)
 - 26 Commercial TV body (11,1,1)
 - 27 Bomb hole (6)
 - 28 Ethnic extermination (6)



- DOWN
- 2 Sea (15)
 - 3 Unbeliever (7)
 - 4 Spoilsport (7)
 - 5 Cell-attacking antibody (13)
 - 6 Fashion (5)
 - 7 Kilt pouch (7)
 - 13 Clairvoyance (1,1,1,1)
 - 15 Cock (7)
 - 16 Fur scarf (13)
 - 17 Temporary substitute (7)
 - 18 Hull joints (7)
 - 20 Power (5)
 - 21 Depth (5)
 - 23 Creed (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 868
ACROSS: 8 Pneumococci 9 Nab 10 Overspill 11 Event 13 Embassy 16 Sudden 19 Clue 22 Overthrow 24 Liu 25 Cardiac arrest
DOWN: 1 Sponge 2 Pebble 3 Immoral 4 Sneeze 5 Aces 6 Solids 7 Aypay 12 Via 14 Bookworm 15 Sec 16 Scorch 17 Dreary 18 Strict 20 Nausea 21 Excess 23 Trim

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هكذا من الأصل

FRIDAY PAGE



Room with a view: Maggie Smith in her dressing room. 'What I like about Interpreters is that I'm not in anyone's shadow.'

The prime of Ms Smith

The self-serving anecdotes, pulling of faces and touching of knees expected by chat show hosts (or "television vivacities" as Gore Vidal calls them) and their audiences of sing-a-long couch parties is one reason why Maggie Smith avoids prime time television interviews.

"It's come to the point where you're a stand-up comic, because I don't think anybody can handle it unless they're screechingly funny. You know," she snaps her fingers, "one-liners and being camp with Terry Wogan."

"I can't do that. I'd die of embarrassment so I don't go near it. I hate all those kind of things". Dressed for a pre-show workout in a black leotard embroidered with a silver star, Maggie Smith looked as if she were about to join Steed in yet another revival of *The Avengers*. A poor performance (her opinion) earlier that week as Nadia in Ronald Harwood's *Interpreters* at Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, was blamed on the debilitating effects of antibiotics prescribed "for a heavy cold."

Next month a lavish film version of E.M. Forster's comedy of manners, *A Room With A View*, co-starring Maggie Smith as Charlotte Bartlett, receives its Cambridge premiere.

"One doesn't always fall in love with whom one intends - and when one does, there's no certainty that anybody else will approve", is one blurb writer's soapy exposition to the media of E.M. Forster's comedy of manners.

During filming on location in Italy, she says, it was "colder raining and impossible to shoot or 105 degrees with people fainting".

Smith found Charlotte Bartlett "a very irritating woman. I think she was based on an aunt of Forster's whom he didn't like". Chaparrone to Lucy (Helena Bonham-Carter), "Charlotte is one of those people

Maggie Smith, who stars in a new film version of *A Room with a View*, talks about her current stage role and why she hates chat shows

who is always driving others mad by saying 'I don't want to be any trouble'. They're forever trying to keep themselves out of the way and are thereby permanently in the way by rushing about. Still, she feels deep remorse in the end - at least that's what happens in the film - and saves the day."

Maggie Smith has been described as difficult because of her refusal to give interviews on set, confining them to the post-shooting period. "That probably goes back to *Brodie*, the only film to date in which I was involved in every frame and therefore your concentration has to be fairly bright. Quite frankly, Judi Dench and I sat around in Florence so long for *A Room With A View* we would have talked to anybody about anything. I mean if you're doing something very difficult you can't take time out to go to the caravan and talk about your divorce - which is all they want to know about. It seems to me fatuous".

Maggie Smith has won Oscars for *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and *California Suite*. In 1981 she returned to Britain after four years in Canada because "the boys (her two sons) were kind of muddled as to whether they should be playing ice hockey or cricket". She played parts at the Festival Theatre, Stratford, Ontario, which she feels she would not have been offered in Britain.

In 1975 she was divorced from Robert Stephens and, the same year, married script writer Beverly Cross, a sweetheart of younger days. They have a country retreat in West Sussex which she visits "on Saturday nights,

Sunday mornings... but the problem of where to live only occurred now with *Interpreters*. I am looking for a flat in London, a permanent base."

Interpreters marks the return of the well made comedy and well turned phrase. Nadia doesn't fancy three days of sexual athletics with Viktor (Edward Fox) - "as if it were an oil change" - only to be rejected again. Comprising the usual staples of humour, sex and foreigners, *Interpreters* affords an opportunity for Russian to be spoken on an English stage. Not all of it was written with delicate mind.

Maggie Smith's comic style of "wry asstringency" (Michael Billington's phrase) is allowed full reign in the role of nearly jaded innocence. "I was fascinated by the idea of *Interpreters* which I had never seen before. I mean, there are not many parts for women, as you may have observed, in this day and age."

"What I like about *Interpreters* is that I'm not in the shadow of other people, as, say in the classics, which have been performed by many others before you."

Were there more opportunities for middle aged actresses in film? "I think it's getting easier. I presume Joan Collins has hacked her way into a new world for us all. You're not totally written off when you get older as happened before. I think what she does is marvellous. It's sort of high camp... wonderful".

She once said that comedy acting - for which she is most renowned despite lauded performances of Lady Macbeth, Cleopatra and Desdemona - required an ability to see the world in a slightly distorted light, "always being aware of the absurd

other side to any serious or tragic event."

"By that I mean, in tragedy there are many areas that could be comic. If you're playing a serious part and you have a comic slant in your head, you can see what is funny and so you tread carefully to avoid that area. If I were just a straight actress I think it would be very odd because I wouldn't know where those dangerous areas were."

Did an absurdist's vision extend to reality? "Would that it did! One would have a much easier life. Life just always seems to be rather hard."

Did she do much research for a role? "Sure, if there's a lot to do. Films are different because you have a different text from the original on the whole. Plays, yes... I could still be playing Virginia Woolf. The possibilities are limitless except she made me desperately grim; trudging every night into the ooze, stones in your gut. Woolf was mad so I had to go mad and that was unerving."

Did she draw on personal experience for characterisation? "Experiences are filed away but you don't have a button that you can press and say: 'I'll think of my mother dying and that will make me feel sad. Everything that happens in life is of use to you as an actress - I suppose that sounds very Chekovian."

"I don't think anybody has a special knowledge of acting. I don't. I don't think it's a thing you can analyse. Instinct is the truest way - the way I do it. There's no handbook on acting, no DIY."

"I suppose one should appear on TV more often. TV creates a name much more quickly and that gets people into a theatre."

"Acting. It's a dumb thing to do but it's fascinating."

Victor Olliver

Protecting the baby from a mother with herpes

MEDICAL BRIEFING

One important concern for pregnant women who have a history of genital herpes, and for the doctors who attend them, is the possibility that the viral infection may be passed on to the baby as it is born. If the mother is suffering from an attack of herpes as she goes into labour, and the baby comes into contact with the virus through sores in the birth canal, the child could then become ill - sometimes seriously.

Current routine practice is to offer a woman in this position a Caesarean section and so minimize the risk to the child. Research from the United States suggests, however, that if the Caesarean section is done four or more hours after the mother's waters have broken it provides little protection for the infant. The Caesarean, with all its disadvantages, is therefore often needlessly performed.

At Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Dr Tim Moss, consultant in gynaecological medicine, has been investigating with his colleagues the use of the anti-herpes drug acyclovir as a way out of this dilemma.

Their studies have shown that when acyclovir is given to an expectant mother it crosses the placenta to the baby and does not do the baby any harm. They hope that, by giving the drug during labour to mothers whose waters have broken four or more hours earlier, they will be able to protect the baby safely from herpes infection and yet still allow a normal vaginal delivery to take place.

Indeed, in the small number of instances where this approach has been tried, healthy babies have been delivered.

Dr Moss stresses that acyclovir would only be used when it was too late to offer a Caesarean and that more studies are needed before it will be possible to say if the treatment is of value or not. But he added: "We hope that it will be a safe alternative to section in those women who go into labour unexpectedly."

Sick who cannot rest in peace

Most people like peace and quiet when they are ill. Hospital is the last place they will find it. Richard Soutar and Dr John Wilson from Ninewells Hospital and medical school, Dundee, set out to discover just how noisy different wards are. Their findings are published in the current issue of the British Medical Journal.

They found that general medical wards and acute admission wards were far

from restful, although psychiatric wards were quite peaceful. To give some idea of how noisy these wards were, a whisper measures 20dB(A) - filtered decibels - light traffic comes in at 45dB(A) and a telephone rings at 60dB(A). Noise levels recommended for hospital wards in the United States are less than 45dB(A) during the day and 35dB(A) during the night.

Readings were taken between 11.30pm and 6.30am in 14 wards. In the half dozen general medical wards the noise level was above 50dB(A) for at least a quarter of the time and, on one ward, for 80 per cent of the night.

The average for the acute wards was more than three and a half hours a night and only the four psychiatric wards exposed patients to less than half an hour's disturbance. Because noise is measured on a sliding scale the general medical and acute wards are about 10 times noisier than the level recommended in the States.

Despite the racket, less than 10 per cent of patients believed their sleep, although staff admitted that it might wake as many as 40 per cent of patients.

However, a considerable amount of the clamour could easily be reduced. Trolleys and taps, say the authors, should be mended immediately they become faulty, noisy patients should be isolated if possible and doctors, particularly, should be encouraged to wear soft-soled shoes.

Hidden worries about the Pill

A bizarre anomaly exists in Japan over the prescribing of the contraceptive pill. According to the Bulletin of the Institute of Medical Ethics, the pill is illegal for contraceptive purposes but doctors are allowed to prescribe it for strictly gynaecological problems - for example, a woman who has irregular periods.

Initially the Pill was made illegal because of the fears of side effects, although now it seems that doctors who run abortion clinics are particularly vociferous when there are moves to legalize and widen its prescribing.

What is particularly worrying is that the Pills which can be prescribed on medical grounds are the ones that contain high doses of oestrogen - the very formulations which carry most risk of blood clots and other side effects. Needless to say there are plenty of women, with

the connivance of their doctors, who do take the Pill for contraceptive purposes; sadly they have no option but to take the ones that may cause them problems.

How tea could be a killer

Take care if you like to drink scalding tea without milk. A report from the US, in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, claims that the high rate of cancer of the throat found in Uruguay, especially among women, may be due to their predilection for maté tea.

This is an infusion of *Ilex paraguariensis*, and the hotter it is drunk the better. In other parts of the globe where there are high rates of cancer of the throat - including Iran and China - hot tea is also the order of the day.

Deafness: it's in the blood

A blood disorder could be the cause of a common form of deafness, researchers at Glasgow's Royal Infirmary and the Medical Research Council Institute of Hearing Research suggest. The discovery could mean it will eventually be possible to treat and prevent the problem.

Sensineural deafness affects 12 per cent of adults and occurs when cells in the inner ear (known as hair cells), which translate sound from a vibration into a nerve impulse, cease to function. Until now there have been few clues to its cause although evidence from animal work has suggested that poor blood supply to the hair cells may be to blame.

Now, in a study of 140 people, Dr George Browning and his colleagues have discovered that sensineural deafness is linked to the stiffness of red, oxygen-carrying blood cells. Normally red blood cells are quite deformable as they have to get through very tiny blood vessels. The Glasgow team has found that people with sensineural deafness tend to have red blood cells that are stiffer than usual. They think this could mean that the red cells, and hence oxygen, are not getting through the tiny blood vessels of the inner ear to keep the hair cells alive.

Red cell stiffness may be caused by something else, the researchers say in a recent edition of *The Lancet*. If they can discover the primary defect they may soon tackle this important cause of hearing problems.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

A new museum in America will be devoted entirely to the work of female artists

Women's art comes of age

Five minutes' walk from the White House, the echoing chambers of the grand old Masonic Temple are being ripped apart and redesigned in readiness for an influx of women. Art is art and has no sex but here, in this of all places, ignored and undervalued women's paintings from the Renaissance to today will be exhibited.

For the time being the newly-formed National Museum of Women in the Arts exists principally upon the tall walls of Mrs Wilhelmina Holladay's large home in Georgetown, the fashionable section of Washington. She says she is out a liberationist - "I've never really needed to be" - but she firmly believes that women artists have been ignored, downplayed and hampered throughout history.

Posthumously, justice is being done. She has donated her personal collection of more than 400 pieces to the museum - mostly paintings but also some sculpture, pottery, prints, drawings, books and photographs - and in early 1987 it will open its doors, probably the only museum in the world dedicated solely to the works of women.

Against isolating men's art and women's art", declared the sculptress Marisol, who happens at the moment to have pieces on display at several major museums. "It doesn't make any sense to me because it should all be together. Art is an idea."

Women's contributions to art throughout history were restricted primarily because women were kept out of art school. The Royal Academy of Arts in Paris had a quota system which admitted only four female students. Even those who got there were rarely allowed into the life class. For centuries, women were largely restricted to china painting or dainty water-colours. Many anonymously assisted their fathers, brothers, husbands or lovers, but never got the credit. A few, angry and frustrated, adopted men's names.

It still happens. Hilda Greene has been using the name H. Clinton Greene for the past 12 years, ever since a critic observed of her work: "Pretty good for a woman". Much of the art world continues to find it difficult to treat women as seriously as men. And that, principally, is why Mrs Holladay decided to campaign for a specialized museum.



Wilhelmina Holladay in Washington

record the contributions of women, so we have been able to do research. We have found out that in almost every era women were painting very successfully. Although artistic ability knows no sexual barrier, Mrs Holladay detects a tendency of women artists of the past to choose particular subject matters. "Because women were limited to their activities tended to consist of portraits of children, flowers or things that they could assemble before them."

Even today, she thinks there may be examples of such a tendency. She pointed out a painting by Elizabeth Blackadder, Scotland's leading contemporary woman artist, entitled "Games Enjoyed by Children", depicting a dish of ice cream, a rattle and other children's items. "Maybe a man would not have picked this gentle subject, but I'm not at all sure he wouldn't. Art is art. It doesn't matter whether a man does it or a woman does it."

The purpose of the museum, she insisted, was not to separate men's and women's art, "but to heighten awareness and establish some of the great women artists throughout history, so they will be taken more seriously and included in great collection. No museum in the world will buy a work of art unless the artist is established

Artistic ability knows no sexual barrier

The Holladay collection today includes works by Cassatt, Helen Frankenthaler, Angelica Kauffman, Alice Neel, Georgia O'Keeffe, Elizabeth Siraoui and Elisabeth Vigée-Lebrun.

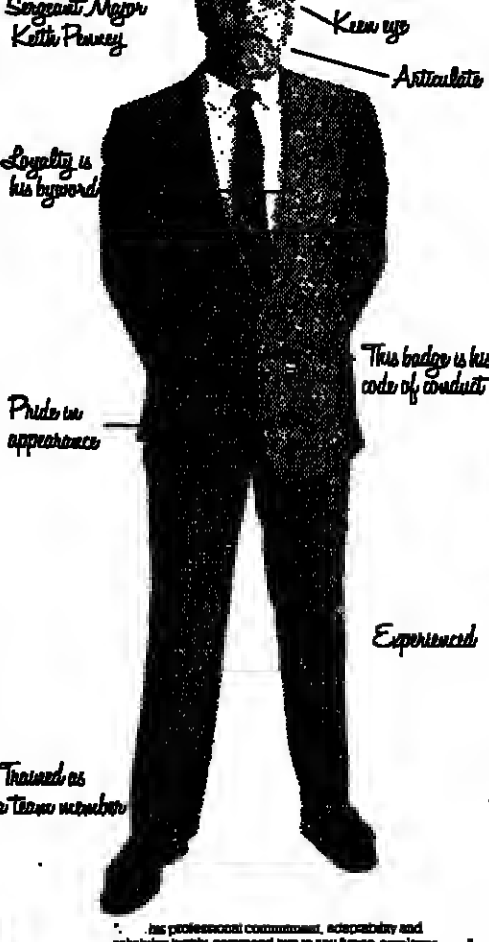
In about four years the museum has raised more than \$10 million of its \$30 million goal, acquired 20,000 members paying \$20 or more, and 229 founders who have contributed \$3,000 apiece. Corporations have given generously.

Already, demand for women's art has increased. "Paintings are going for more at auction, they are harder to collect," Mrs Holladay declared. "Dealers are acquiring stock because they think prices will go up when the museum opens. As we make these artists established and well known, their prices will go up. They're already going up. Aren't we fortunate that we bought when we did?"

Christopher Thomas

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THE TIMES DIARY

Busman's holiday

Edward Heath and the other rebels outraged by the idea of selling BL to the Americans...

Old story

Talking of British Leyland, a reader sends me a copy of the Daily Mirror of January 29 1936...

Bad form

It's official: under a Tory government it doesn't pay to live too long. A recently bereaved friend has just been sent a form...

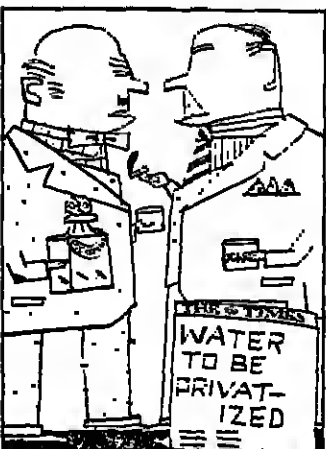
Animal instinct

Ian Paisley's lack of German has landed Northern Ireland Secretary Tom King with an unfortunate new image...

Hanging judge

Judge James Fox Andrews, hearing a High Court case against the architects of Liverpool's Catholic Cathedral...

BARRY FANTONI



It will suit old Fred: he's already got shares in Distillers

Blown up

Students of the Widdicombe Report and the impending legislation restricting political statements by local authorities...

Noticed a spot of brotherly love between Leon Brittan and the new Scottish Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind?

Old story

Under the headline "Pensions in Gibraltar for Spain's old," Wednesday's Daily Telegraph said of the pensioners...

PHS

Water bill that hits us all

by Des Wilson

The government's proposal to sell off Britain's water industry is not only the biggest privatisation exercise so far...

Ninety-nine per cent of British households (the highest proportion in the world) have mains water...

Last February the Prime Minister told the Commons that "water authorities are natural monopolies for many of their functions..."

Apart from the likely outcry when the public fully appreciates the loss of accountability...

The North-West Water Authority has admitted to "a legacy of pollution, dereliction, and consistent under-spending over many years..."

Fifteen per cent of the nation's sewage system is more than 100 years old; each year there are 500 sewer collapses.

There is also colossal waste; a third of the clean water entering the system never reaches the taps because of leakage on the way.

The 10 water authorities created in 1973 are themselves divided. Recently the North-West Authority spelt out what its distinctive about the industry:

- It has a natural monopoly of the services provided. Because a reliable supply of clean water is vital to health and life, the service must never fail. The industry has important regulatory functions and environmental responsibilities...

Issues of public accountability and finance arise. Accountability was reduced by the government's 1983 Water Act. This abolished local authority representation on the water boards...

Since then all nine English water authorities have refused to meet in public, and have been widely criticized as a result.

Given that we must have water, it follows that we have no option - but to pay the price demanded for it. Thus water rates are a form of taxation...

The suggestion that a director-general of water services will maintain some public control of the pricing policy of these private companies is hardly credible.

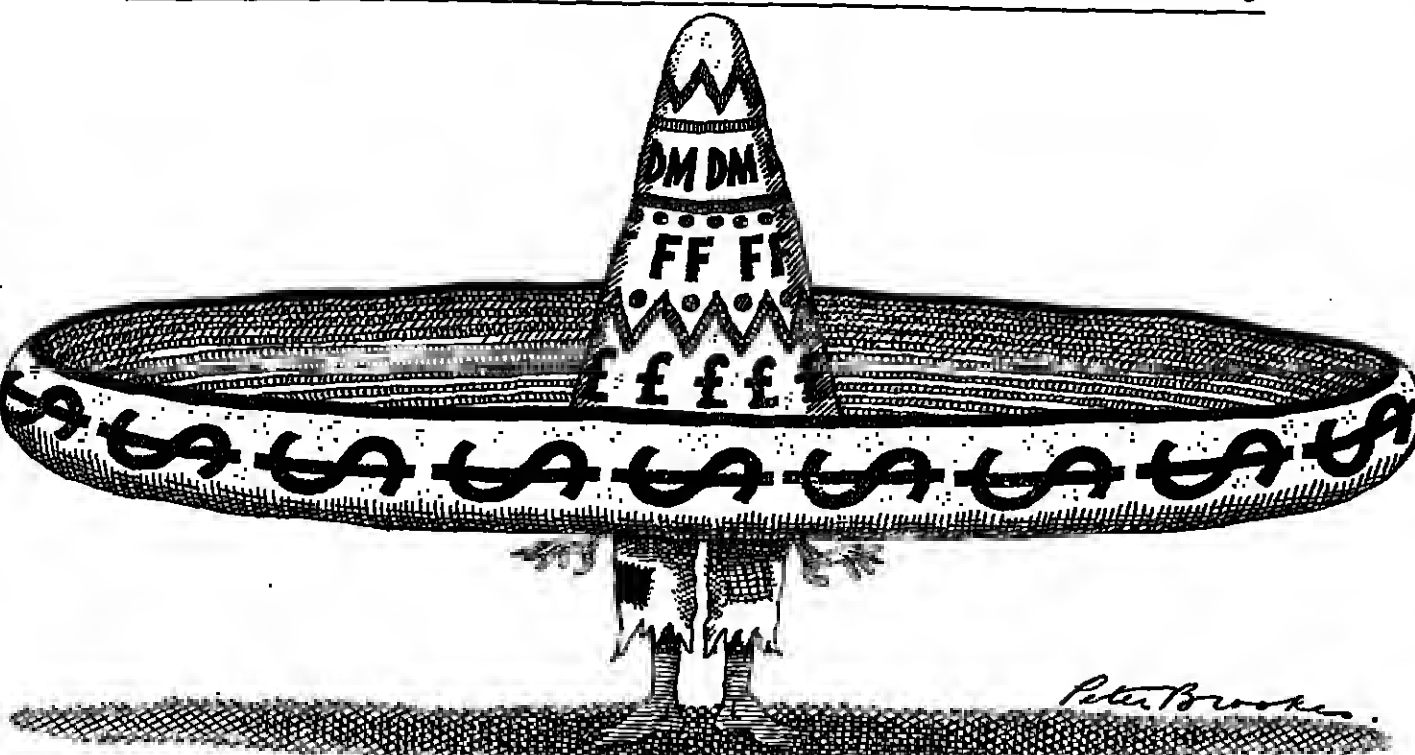
once established, they will be able to insist on any price by threatening ill effects on supply or infrastructure improvements.

There is too much at stake in terms of public health for such matters to be subject to short-term market considerations.

One can have an open mind on the case for privatization generally and still believe there is no argument for this one.

The author is chairman of Friends of the Earth.

John Carlin on the new threat to world financial stability



Mexico City One Monday recently tens of thousands of workers were given the day off to attend a speech by the governor of a state adjoining Mexico City...

Mexico's debt message: relax or we renege

economic growth, money is becoming desperately short. The PRI leadership has never sounded so nervous.

Both Mexico and the big international banks, to which it owes nearly \$100 billion, feared for their survival in 1982, when the country went bankrupt.

But the price of oil is now sliding. At the last count, Mexico's oil income this year was expected to be \$5 billion less than when de la Madrid took power three years ago.

Loyalty to the party is rewarded in the same way that lack of it - for example, failing to appear at pro-government rallies - can be punished by the loss of a day's wages.

Will costs be awarded to legal aid?

The battle between the Bar and the government over increased pay for legal aid work comes to a head this week.

Last month, for example, the government announced a top-level scrutiny into the workings of the legal aid scheme, now costing the taxpayer £320 million a year.

There have been other signs of strains on the legal aid budget. This year, the capital limits below which people qualify for legal aid were not increased in line with inflation...

In theory, everyone can obtain criminal legal aid awarded on an "interests of justice" test. There is also a means test based on income and capital...

On the criminal side, there has been better productivity in the criminal justice system with a big rise in the work of the courts.

On the civil side, some 70 per cent of the population qualify. There are two hurdles: the merits of the case, decided by a panel of lawyers, and a means test.

Criminal legal aid accounts for the lion's share of the bill. The figure for 1985/86 is £150 million, compared with £85 million for civil legal aid.

On top of this increase in volume, the actual costs of individual cases have grown. A divorce case in the county court which cost roughly £600 in 1983/84 is projected at £900 in the coming year.

There are strong arguments, however, not only for preserving the system but for expanding it

and filling in its gaps. Last year the legal aid watchdog body, the Lord Chancellor's advisory committee, called for a number of reforms to remove injustices in the scheme...

The committee wanted consideration to be given to individuals fighting large public institutions. It also called for the country's 36 community law centres to be put on a secure financial basis...

At a time when the government is committed to spending an extra £20 million for the new duty-solicitor scheme for free legal advice in police stations...

There is a real danger, at present, that if the lawyers have any measure of success in their current pay claim, the standards of the legal aid service may be secured, but fewer people will enjoy its benefits.

Frances Gibb Legal affairs correspondent

David Watt

Whitehall pact in need of repair

It turns out that when Michael Heseltine claimed the Westland affair was a major constitutional issue he was right for the wrong reasons.

It involves a clash between three competing interests: ministers, the bureaucracy and Parliament. In pure constitutional theory such a clash is impossible...

This government, like its four or five predecessors, has abandoned the full theory of ministerial responsibility. Ministers do not feel obliged to take the blame for all the mistakes of their ministry...

This attitude breaks the compact on which civil service silence and anonymity rest. As a minister I take responsibility but expect your silence, as civil servant, you keep your mouth shut but get shielded from public criticism...

Of these critics, the most persistent and prominent are the press, a fact which partly accounts for the enormous increase in leaks from Whitehall to Fleet Street.

moreover... Miles Kington

Ye Roses Warre: Yorks all out

It isn't something we boast about a lot, but this column has been computerized for several years.

"Naff off, you Normans!" cried the Sun. "Further Rounds of Anglo-Norman Talks Expected Soon," said the Daily Telegraph.

"Why Thanes make the best lovers," offered the Daily Star. "Why there will be no invasion this year," tried the Daily Express.

"Ethelred the Unready? Blimey, how wrong can you be! Court beauty reveals sexy Saxon goings-on" is the Mirror's contribution to foreign news...

Given these encouraging results, we turned the clock forward to 1588, to see what our press would have made of the impending Spanish Armada.

"Get Stuffed, Senores!" Guardian: "Very real fear of differentials being eroded in Plymouth shipyards, say guild leaders"; Daily Star: "The saucy secrets of those sexy Senores!"

Mirror: "Exclusive: Sir Francis Drake on My Way to Playing Better Bowls"; Express: "Why the Queen put her career before a family life - a courtier reveals all"; Financial Times: "Double exchange rate at all-time low"; Daily Peasant: "Colonialist, imperialist armada set to meet imperialist, colonialist English fleet..."

disobliging to governments does not come from the Tisdales and Pontings but by way of discreet "guidance" from senior Civil Service colleagues who do not see why they should take all the flak for their ministerial masters.

A parallel development has also revived, in a new form, the 19th century role of Parliament as a potential adversary rather than an adjunct of government.

The growing importance of the Commons' specialist select committees is the result of a loosening of the grip of the party machines on British politics.

There is not much point in arguing whether these trends, which have contributed vastly to the openness of our political and administrative processes, are better on balance than the closed circle of the prewar system.

For better or worse, we live with professional, full-time politicians who live and die by the media and cannot afford to accept formal responsibility for more mistakes than they have to.

Most people agree that part of the answer lies in what we do with the electoral system and with the procedures of Parliament. But we tend to forget the relationship between the other sides of the government triangle.

The Westland affair is another symptom of the need to re-establish, by some means, the badly damaged confidence between politicians and their permanent officials.



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THE NUCLEAR MIST

"There were no implications for the public", British Nuclear Fuels said on Wednesday. There were. There are. Implications follow, regardless of precise microcurie readings, regardless of initial concentrations of plutonium, regardless of whether radiation escaped from the processing line and entered the atmosphere of the chemical separation building at Sellafield.

Any nuclear accident, however trivial, produces a frisson of fear and no amount of "put-tutting" by BNFL spokesman will change that. It is an inescapable fact that the processing of spent fuel, like most processes featuring plutonium, take place in a context of what is at best "public uncertainty and at worst cold fear. Each incident at Sellafield, and there have been too many, implicates the very activity of reprocessing in which BNFL has invested both resource and that most precious of commodities, the confidence of the public in nuclear energy.

It may be that each of the successive accidents and incidents at Sellafield are unrelated. They do have a cumulative effect, for it is a natural suspicion that managerial failure is a part cause of each. This, the latest, inevitably deepens public anxiety. It cannot be buried as easily as contaminated operatives' work-clothes.

Accidents will happen in the best-ordered industry. Environmentalists, however

sincere, have misled many by seizing on every event in the nuclear industry as a sign of the apocalypse. Accidents, moreover, as shown recently in the United States at the Kerr-McGee plant in Gore, Oklahoma, tend to be associated with irregular episodes of maintenance rather than the production process. A single accident involving (BNFL indicates) some physical breakdown in an aerosol jet or a pump implies nothing beyond itself, nor necessarily does a chapter of accidents in different locations in the large manufacturing and processing area that Sellafield encompasses.

But a perception has unavoidably grown up that Sellafield is accident-prone and that somewhere in the causal chain there has been failure of supervision, the sort of failure which *ex post facto* inquiry by the Health and Safety Commission and other regulatory bodies has seemed powerless to prevent. That said, the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate must now provide the fullest possible demonstration, within the bounds of commercial confidentiality, that Sellafield is well governed. Where safety rules have been infringed, there must be fines. And where fines fail (BNFL has paid out in the courts before) central intervention may be required.

A single incident of as yet unknown seriousness is a flimsy basis for review of

nuclear industrial strategy. Yet behind the small-scale inspectorate investigation wider questions intrude. The processing of spent fuel is the most hazardous process in the civil nuclear programme. It is one in which Britain has specialized and it is one whose economics look increasingly shaky. An incident such as this has to have an impact on the calculations concerning the proposed reprocessing plant at the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's Dounreay site.

They concern the safety of the plant, and the cost of further safety work (to the extent that safety is a function of investment). They also concern the safety of the public, meaning the plant's neighbours. There may be some perfectly plausible reason for the apparent pattern in leukaemia in children in Caithness; the pattern may be a statistical apparition; even if it exists there may be some non-nuclear explanation. The scare about radioactive iodine in the water supply of Surrey may be just that, a scare. But these are not phenomena to be brushed under the carpet. Their investigation is urgent. The fact is that there is a vast work of public education about the incidence and probable causes of cancer. It is work in which neither the UKAEA nor the Ministry of Defence nor BNFL can afford to adopt a dismissive posture.

NO BOLT HOLE FOR BABY DOC

It is said now to be a question not so much of whether "Baby Doc" Jean-Claude Duvalier will abdicate the presidential throne of Haiti which his family has sat on for the last 29 years, as when. Now for the bad news - he has nowhere else to go.

Reports that Duvalier has recently approached Argentina, Italy, Greece, Switzerland and Spain with requests for asylum, suggest that even he can now read the writing on the palace wall - his people have had enough of him and want him to go. The refusals of these countries to accept him is understandable, given the reputation of the Duvalier dynasty, father ("Papa Doc") and son, for cruelty, oppression and misrule. But are they doing a service to his people?

The United States, the one country with the power and influence - and now possibly the will - to unseat him, has long cherished the hope that the Duvaliers might be persuaded to reform. Last week's announcement by the State Department that it was suspending about half of the latest \$50m aid allocation (the other half is given in the form of food for Haiti's poor) reflected this cautious American attitude of stern dis-

approval, tempered by hope that it might all change.

The message of the last week must surely be that it is now too late for that - that reforms enacted by the president at this stage will not be enough to appease his opposition. The fear that the Duvaliers and their dreadful militia - the Tontons Macoutes, once inspired in Haiti's six million population has been replaced by anger - which is a much more difficult reaction for dictators to deal with.

Events so far have suggested however that Duvalier could not easily be toppled as long as he retains control of the army and the police - his main instruments of power. Even if he could, there are grave doubts about whether Haiti could cope with the vacuum he would leave.

There is no democratic infrastructure, no politically educated middle class to seize the reins of power. The great danger must be that anarchy would prevail, with no clear way out of it.

One characteristic of the last week or two has been the pro-American mood of the people. Agitators have fervently unfurled the Stars and Stripes as a desperate symbol

of the liberty they crave. They seek democracy and the inference one draws is that they would like the United States to restore it to them. But would intervention by Washington be wise?

There is too the question of who would follow in "Baby Doc's" shoes. The only advantage which the Duvaliers have afforded Washington has been a kind of stability in this particular corner of its backyard - and a regime which has allowed little scope for Communism to flourish. Might the devil one knows be succeeded by the devil one doesn't?

These are difficult questions for the State Department to answer as it ponders the crisis in Haiti. All the indications are that Haiti will need American help in more ways than one in a post-Duvalier age. But perhaps it should receive it now. Perhaps the best service that Washington could perform for Haitians would be to find a haven for its president, however unpopular such a move would be. That way, it might be able to ensure a peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy - under the civil as opposed to military guidance of the United States.

TRADING WITH MOSCOW

In the months since the Geneva summit, hopes have been high that the warm words around the fireside would be translated into improvements in the day-to-day relations between East and West. Some of the grander hopes have already been dashed. Even in the conditions of better understanding between the superpowers signs of progress were likely to be long in coming and less than dramatic when they arrived. So the announcement that Britain and the Soviet Union have initialled a new long-term trade accord is welcome news.

Anglo-Soviet trade is currently conducted under arrangements made more than 10 years ago, and formalized in the 1975 agreement signed by Harold Wilson and the then Soviet Prime Minister, Alexei Kosygin. Since then, politics and a general atmosphere of ill-feeling have stifled many a good intention and blocked many an opportunity. This week's accord offers the possibility of a new start.

Neither side bears exclusive blame. The Soviet Union is a very formal trading partner. Its centrally planned economy makes for cumbersome and inflexible negotiating procedures. Calculating the likely time needed for closing a deal is tantamount to divination. And maintaining a team in the Soviet Union for the often lengthy negotiations is

expensive, even for larger British concerns, and does not always yield results.

These are problems any Western country faces in its dealings with the Soviet Union. But they are exacerbated where Britain is concerned by what Moscow perceives as Britain's special relationship with the United States. Even when the British government has dissociated itself from US policies - as it did over exports of equipment for the Siberian gas pipeline - the lack of trust has persisted and it has yet to be overcome, despite the recent improvement in relations between Moscow and Washington.

But there have been faults on the British side, too. British firms, unused to the slow pace at which dealings with the Eastern bloc proceed, have run out of patience when they were almost within sight of their goal. They have failed to invest the money and the skills needed to obtain a commercial foothold in Moscow. And their attention has been deflected from the size and potential of the Soviet market by short-term profit considerations.

The British government's commitment to improved trade with the Eastern bloc has been ambivalent. It has not always given British companies, especially the smaller companies, the sort of encouragement they might have expected. And Moscow

has been quick to understand that where West Germany and France have shown themselves only too willing to disregard political difficulties in return for trade advantages, the same has not always been true of Britain.

The accord initialled yesterday offers the prospect of a new framework for commercial dealings between the two countries. That in turn could facilitate a real growth in trade. The timing of the accord, as the Soviet Union finalizes its next five-year economic plan, could not have been bettered. And Moscow has shown a genuine desire to see a significant growth in bilateral trade with Britain - not just in Soviet exports.

The present leadership in Moscow has given priority to the development of a whole range of sectors in which Britain has appropriate, and internationally respected, experience: the petrochemical industry; gas and oil prospecting; agriculture; and the food industry. And British firms are already competing for several major construction projects in the Soviet Union.

According to the Department of Trade and Industry the new accord should help British companies win orders worth billions of pounds and increase bilateral trade by more than 40 per cent over the five-year period. But "help" is the operative word. It will be up to British companies to do the rest.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Helicopters for Armed Forces

From Mr. N.J.C. Drummond
Sir, One of your letters (February 3) mentioned that the Westland affair has shed light on the fact that there is a shortage of helicopters in the Armed Forces. This is a view very much shared originally in the Army, where often the only alternative to helicopter operations are those done on foot.

What the Westland affair has not made known is the future importance that helicopters are expected to play in military roles. The helicopter has transcended its already ubiquitous tasks such as troop transport, casualty evacuation, reconnaissance, liaison and artillery observation, to become a complete weapon system in its own right.

The British Army already uses the Westland Lynx helicopter in service to act as an attack helicopter - a role for which it was not designed. Lynx helicopters armed with Tow anti-tank missiles are seen as being key weapons against massive armoured thrusts in a future European conflict. There is an increased requirement for this type of helicopter within the British Army. The Lynx replacement is already being considered.

Neither have the views of the Armed Forces been made clear, for they are users who know best what tools they need for the job. When defence budgeting demands cost-effectiveness, the Armed Forces simply demand the best available equipment for the price. They accept that this

cannot always be British. Too often the Armed Forces have had to contend with second-rate equipment.

I served in Belize last year, where we relied on RAF Puma helicopters to perform every task. This helicopter needs replacement soon. Many of us who have seen the Sikorsky S-60 Black Hawk helicopter believe it to be the best helicopter replacement for the Puma. (The alternative, the Westland WG-30 was considered widely to be inferior).

The US-made Hughes AH-64 Apache attack helicopter is considered to be the most combat-capable of its type. The Apache, like the Black Hawk, is already in service. Whether Europe can develop better machines for the price of these two is debatable, but what Europe cannot do is offer Britain's Armed Forces suitable future machines within an acceptable timescale.

Mr. Heseline, the former so-called champion of the Armed Forces, should have perhaps considered such things before he laid his job on the line. In supporting the European consortium he has let down the Armed Forces, who are not allowed to voice what they really think in public.

Yours faithfully,
N.J.C. DRUMMOND,
Trinity Drummond,
Cambridge,
February 3.

Work practices in Fleet Street

From Mr Kenneth G. Braidwood
Sir, Congratulations that a national newspaper is at last able to publish an article dealing in detail with overmanning in Fleet Street (Bernard Levin, *The Times*, February 3, 1986: "Fleet Street: now the truth can be told").

Mr Levin's examples illustrate well the lunacy of the labour practices and the denial of modern technology which threatens ruin for the national newspaper industry. Costs have now escalated to the point where they can only be borne, and just, by the mass circulation newspapers. Newspapers with more modest circulations face certain closure without heavy subsidies. Already there have been closures, with the loss of many jobs. More are inevitable without an end to the absurd practices of the print unions' labour cartel.

This is no sudden crisis. Some 20 years ago I was asked by the proprietors and the unions of the Fleet Street industry, along with the then managing director of the Economist Intelligence Unit and under the chairmanship of Lord Justice Devlin to lead a team which made a factual study of the national newspaper industry as a basis for the changes which could lead to increased efficiency within the industry and which were seen as vital then.

The report took months to prepare. It was very detailed. Proprietors, management and unions accepted its accuracy. The Prime Minister of the day, Mr Harold Wilson, commended the report and he welcomed the changes it implied.

The changes were then talked about and talked and talked about. Few changes resulted in practice. The unions forbade any real concessions to reason and efficiency; where they did concede it was always too little and too late. Instead their demands became more rapacious and unreasonable and the barriers against new technology ever stronger.

In essence industrial anarchy began to prevail. Month after month millions of copies began to be lost and prolonged closures were forced on *The Times* and *Financial Times*. There was general despair about the future of the Fleet Street industry.

Mr Murdoch and his workforce at Wapping have wrought an astonishing change in this scene and we should all be profoundly grateful, for their fight with the print unions is not only about the efficiency, costs and profits within the Fleet Street industry; it is equally about a freedom vital for a free society: the freedom to publish.

As Lord Devlin wrote in his preface to that factual report 20 years ago "The report does not raise problems for the press alone to solve. It raises problems for a free democracy."

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH BRAIDWOOD,
15 Pembroke Court,
Edwards Square,
Kensington, W8,
February 4.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 7 1896

The pages of *The Times* in the second half of the 19th century constantly carried reports of military engagements and skirmishes in far-off places as Britain consolidated and polished her empire. They began by Colonel John Peile in such a one.

THE OPERATIONS AGAINST THE SANA KACHINS

(From our Special Correspondent)
Mylitkyia, Dec. 14.
In December, 1892, while operations were being conducted against the Sana or Kamlaio Kachins on the north-east frontier of Burma, the Sana Kachins from the north took the opportunity of raiding Mylitkyia, setting fire to the public buildings, killing the Subadar Major and some few Europeans of the Mylitkyia military police, and then scuttling back as fast as they could to their own hills, leaving some four or five of their dead at Mylitkyia. As the Sana Kachins have been persistent in their raids on British territory, and have committed atrocities and many other offences during the past three years, it has been determined to punish them, and with this in view it was ordered that two columns of military police, one furnished by the Mylitkyia battalion and the other by the Mogaung battalion, should proceed by different routes to Panlong, the supposed capital of the Sana Tract, meet there, demand the fines ordered by Government, and if necessary, exact the fines and the submission of the various villages by force of arms. Both the battalions of military police named above are composed of Gorkhas, so the punitive force will consist entirely of those little men, and the Mylitkyia column will have with it two small mountain guns, worked by the Gorkhas, who have been drilled for the purpose. The officer took off to command the operation in Major Carey, of the 1st Bombay Cavalry, and now one of the commandants of a police battalion. A long line of mules accompanies each column as it has been found necessary to take rations to last for three weeks. The force, after combining at Panlong, will stockade itself there, send back the mules for more rations, and then despatch parties to visit all the villages and exact submission. These parties will, as far as possible, move without mules, as it is in a long train of transport animals that weakness in fighting jungle savages lies. To the south-west of us 150 military police under Captain Hodges, with Mr. Bate as Political Officer, and Lieutenant Carey as Intelligence Officer, are to work the Jade Mines Tract. This force is called the Jade Mines Escort. It would hardly be available to help the Sana column, as it has itself to form two posts, one at a place called Nanyaseik, where licenses are just being issued for the ruby mines which have lately been discovered there, and the other as the side mines, to control the disorderly rabble that assembles there during the cold season. There is a very large trade carried on in jade between the Kachin owners of the mines and Chinese speculators. Jade is a green stone which is found in large blocks or slabs in the mines and in the bed of the Uyr river. The Chinese jade licence-holder pays the Kachins for the mines and lets them out in blocks. The speculators then dig in their blocks and the jade is taken out in masses and carried by boat to Nanyaseik, and thence by foot to Kamaing, Mogaung, and Bhamo. I have seen as many as 20 Shan Chinese coolies struggling along with a huge block of jade, which was attached to long poles by ropes and carried shoulder high. The jade is then taken to one of the agents of the licensee, who values it, say, at Rs.5,000. If the speculator is prepared to pay this sum, he takes the jade away with him to China, where after being cut, and the Chinese are, I believe, the only people who know how to cut jade - it may be found to yield more than 100 per cent, or, perhaps, to be worth nothing at all.

Leyland sale

From the Chairman of the National House-Building Council
Sir, Two years ago the "Think British" campaign asked all our MPs if they owned a British car. Only just over 200 replied saying that they did so. One hopes that in any future debate on the future of Austin Rover the other 400 will acknowledge the contribution which they have themselves made to Britain's industrial decline.

We ourselves switched our fleet of 300 cars to Austin Rover in 1981 in the belief that if others did so the industry might recover. Although there were teething troubles we have had no cause to regret our decision because the quality of the British product has improved. Will MPs now set an example? Or are they too late?

Yours faithfully,
A.W. TAIT, Chairman,
National House-Building Council,
58 Portland Place, W1,
February 5.

Whist ERF is not large in world terms in the automotive industry, we do currently hold nearly 10 per cent of the UK heavy duty truck market and employ nearly 1,000 people within the group, plus probably another 50,000 indirectly through our suppliers throughout this country.

Whatever the outcome, I hope that the new consortium will continue to employ British labour and use British components, as much as we do!

Yours faithfully,
E.P. FODEN, Chairman,
ERF (Holdings) plc,
Sun Works,
Sandbach,
Cheshire,
February 5.

Care of the elderly

From Dr W. B. Wright and Dr J. S. Meyrick
Sir, Your nautical reporting of the death rate among holiday and social admissions at the Whitlington Hospital (January 27) does a disservice to the elderly and to those who care for them, both in the community and in hospitals. That such figures may not be representative is demonstrated by our experience in the geriatric ward at this hospital. Admissions are selective only in that there are no facilities for major trauma or acute surgery, although we regularly provide convalescence and rehabilitation after such events.

In the five-year period 1981-85 the 18-bed ward accepted 518 patients, of whom 99 died (19 per cent), 134 were for family relief and special reasons, of whom seven died (5 per cent); 384 were for illness, of whom 92 died (24 per cent).

Many disabled elderly people can only be cared for in the community as a result of such admissions to give respite to those who care for them, and it must be remembered that they are already too frail and dependent to be transferred for such "holidays" anywhere except to hospital. Arousing unjustified fears of this nature does nothing to promote their welfare.

Yours faithfully,
W. B. WRIGHT,
J. S. MEYRICK,
Moore Cottage Hospital,
Bourton-on-the-Water,
Gloucestershire,
January 30.

Self-help

From Sir Denis Wright
Sir, With piracy of books, films, etc. again in the news I wonder whether any of your readers can bear my invidious experience?

My hook, *The English Amongst the Persians*, published by Heinemann in 1977, has, since the Islamic Revolution in Iran, been translated and published in Tehran by four different translators and four different publishers (the last as recently as last year) without a by your leave!

Yours truly,
DENIS WRIGHT
(Ambassador to Iran, 1963-71),
Duck Bottom,
Flint Street,
Haddenham,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire.

Crown immunity

From the Director General of the Health and Safety Executive
Sir, In *The Times* of January 28 Mr Nigel Harris complains that a health service administrator is immune from prosecution in the event of his being found negligent in some aspect of management that has contributed to death or injury of a patient, whereas a doctor is not.

He is mistaken. Crown immunity applies to the Crown and not to individuals, and an administrator is in no special position in this respect. It might indeed be a difficult matter to prove an offence under the Health and Safety at Work Act against an administrator, but he is certainly open to prosecution in the circumstances envisaged by Mr. Harris.

The Health and Safety Executive would not, however, prosecute an individual in substitution for the Crown. There would have to be clear personal responsibility. Nor would we attempt a prosecution in matters which are more specifically dealt with under other legislation, or by other inspecting authorities - for example, in a case affecting food hygiene.

Yours faithfully,
J.D. RIMINGTON,
Director General,
Health and Safety Executive,
Regina House,
259 Old Marylebone Road,
NW1,
February 4.

Against all odds

From Mr. G.S.W. Marshall
Sir, Your "On this day" column (February 4) gives an account of the Rugby International at Cardiff on February 4, 1935, when Wales beat Scotland 10-6.

No wonder Scotland lost because, according to the teams published at the end of your report, Scotland were playing with only 10 men, being deficient in one three-quarter, two half-backs and two forwards.

I was abroad at the time and never realised what a terrible time my young brother must have had at full back.

Yours faithfully,
G.S.W. MARSHALL,
Fairlaw,
Sway Road,
Brockenhurst,
Hampshire.

Shackle in Nepal

From Mrs J. Merz
Sir, While no one would condone the harassment, humiliation and persecution which David Alton, in his article, "Speak up for these Christians" (February 1), alleges is meted out to the Christian minority in Nepal, it should be remembered that the present situation would never arise if the Nepalese were allowed to pursue, in peace, the Hinduism which is an important part of their indigenous culture.

Nepal's government have made it quite clear that they do not want the interference of Christian evangelists in their country. If their wishes were respected, the "zone of peace" might become a reality and the Christian minority allowed to pursue their religion in peace.

Of course the Nepalese badly need help with health care, education, agriculture and industry but Christians seem unable to offer this much-needed aid without, at the same time, trying to influence the Nepalese away from the traditional beliefs which suit their lifestyle and culture.

Surely the Human Rights article guaranteeing freedom of religious belief, if interpreted in its widest sense, means also the right to practise one's religion without undue interference from unwanted evangelists.

Yours faithfully,
JOHANNA D. MERZ,
14 Whitefield Close,
Putney, SW15,
February 3.

Seen along the line

From Mr. H.T. Jones
Sir, Professor Dunstan (February 1) and others who enjoy the view from a railway carriage window may be interested to know that three branches of the Railway Development Society have already published... *By Rail* guide books covering East Anglia, Lincolnshire and the Midlands respectively, and I am currently engaged on editing *Kent & East Sussex by Rail* for the London and Home Counties branch of the Railway Development Society. Two other books in the series are likely to appear soon.

Yours sincerely,
H. TREVOR JONES,
Flat 2,
11 Guildford Road,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent,
February 2.

Staying power

From Mr Alan Pidgeon
Sir, In response to Mr Butler's request (January 16) for examples of ex-Service material still in use, I treasure one such article which I feel should qualify.

In 1945 I was detailed to make regular visits over several months to a PoW camp in Germany to interrogate a group of German officers. The war in Europe was over and they were glad to cooperate, partly no doubt with an eye to early release. When this came about, they presented me with a beautiful metal casket which had been fashioned from tin cans

Salvaged from the dustbins of the Pioneer Corps cookhouse.

It has stood on my desk for 40 years, in daily use, housing writing materials, keys and odds and ends. Neither rust nor metal fatigue have attacked it in all that time.

As it happened, the camp was code-named "dustbin".

Yours faithfully,
ALAN PIDGEON,
Dove Cottage,
Broodgate,
Great Eastern,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 6: The Princess Anne...

Director Women's Royal Naval Service...

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE February 6: The Duke of Kent...

The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend a performance...

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chief Commandant...

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.R.G. Arthur and Miss L.C. Bromley The engagement is announced...

Mr M.G. Hickson and Miss S.R.V. Martin The engagement is announced...

Mr C.H.S.J. Hoare and Miss S.A. Dixon Smith The engagement is announced...

Mr D.H. Moss and Miss E.T. Heron The engagement is announced...

Mr N.L.J. Dyer and Miss V.A.G. Duckham The engagement is announced...

Mr R.J.A. Good and Miss D.A.C. Neale The engagement is announced...

Mr M.M.C. Henderson and Miss V. Matthews The engagement is announced...

Mr A.P. Willmott and Miss D.K. Pittman The engagement is announced...

Marriages

Mr G. Rowe and Miss K. Nabulsi The marriage took place quietly on Saturday...

Mr J. Bentley and Miss L. Ferrar The marriage took place on Saturday...

Mr J.R. Ferrar and Miss R. Ingeston The marriage took place on Saturday...

Mr D. West-Russell, Miss Rosina Fere, QC, and Mr Brian Walsh, QC...

The bride was given in marriage by her father and Mr Richard Robinson was best man.

The Head Master of Westminster School held a reception last night at Ashburnham House...

The Middle Temple Sir David West-Russell, Miss Rosina Fere, QC, and Mr Brian Walsh, QC...

Those of you who have enjoyed great cocktails and great orchestras giving superb performances...

MUSICIANS BENEVOLENT FUND. Philip Crompton, Hon. D. M. M. A. F.R.C.O. Chairman...

Charles Knevitt The architect as anti-hero

The architect as hero will be making an appearance at the Royal Institute of British Architects next Tuesday...

and there are many different types of architects in the profession. In his book 'The Image of the Architect'...

to concern itself with its social function. If that is to respond to need then, the public might ask with justification...

As a leading article in 'The Times' pointed out two years ago: 'Architects are presently prominent in the class of scapegoats about whom nothing too harsh can be said...

The architect as we think of him today bears more resemblance to Paul Newman clinging to the wreckage of his building in the disaster movie 'Towering Inferno'...

His recent speeches echo the famous address by the former Prince of Wales to the RIBA in 1934: 'I think you who are connected with this great institution know how concerned I am over the living conditions of the great mass of our people and how anxious I am to see these conditions improved as quickly as they possibly can be.'



The first heavy snowfall of the winter in London brought out the smiles and sledges on Parliament Hill Fields yesterday (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Sale room Top prices for silver

Three of London's top silver dealers, who frequently bid in partnership, were competing with each other at Sotheby's yesterday and secured one of the three top lots apiece.

Silver epagnes have been rising in value very rapidly over the past two to three years; £8,000 used to be the top price but yesterday a particularly fine one made by Francis Butty and Nicolas Dumeez in 1767 sold for £22,000 (estimate £15,000-£20,000).

Prices to line with estimates while the important things went a bit above. Sotheby's sale of Scottish paintings in Glasgow on Wednesday made a total of £233,272 with 17 per cent left unsold.

Dinner New Zealand Society

Lord Scarman proposed the toast 'New Zealand' at the New Zealand Society's Waitangi Day commemorative dinner at the Savoy Hotel last night.

Science report Researchers uncover clue to cot deaths

Canadian researchers have found what they believe is a new clue to the mystery behind infant cot deaths. Just why young babies stop breathing for no obvious medical reason has eluded doctors and scientists for years.

Science report Excess dopamine in blood

The carotid glands regulate breathing and oxygen balance, and function with the main arteries carrying blood to the head. Excess dopamine in these glands reduces the frequency of respiration and could also inhibit the response to lack of oxygen in sleeping infants, claims the researchers.

OBITUARY DANDY NICHOLS

Long suffering wife of Alf Garnett

Dandy Nichols, who became a national celebrity playing the wife of Alf Garnett in the television comedy 'Till Death Us Do Part' died yesterday, at the age of 78.



Fame came late and unexpectedly for an actress who had been in theatre, film and television for 30 years but almost always in small supporting parts.

The Second World War interrupted her career, sending her back to an office for two years, but after 1945 she established herself as a polished character actress.

'Till Death', written by Johnny Speight, was one of the first situation comedies on television to use its format for political and social comment. It started in 1964 and ran for nine years.

The success of 'Till Death' brought her more substantial parts, notably the seagull landlady in the film 'Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party'...

Memorial services

Mr L. Mitchell Prince of Denmark was present at a memorial service for Mr Leslie Mitchell held at St Paul's Church, Covent Garden...

AXEL POIGNANT

Axel Poignant, the photographer, best known for his vivid studies of the people and landscape of Australia, has died aged 79.

He now began to feel that the Aborigines held the key to his further understanding of Australia. Until that time he had met them only as displaced persons on the cattle stations...

MR TREVOR DONALDSON

Mr Trevor Donaldson, who died on January 30 at Montargis, France, at the age of 70, was a chartered surveyor whose special interest was the development of town centres and shopping complexes.

During his sojourn many groups of Aborigines came and went, among them Narrana the song man, with whom he established a special rapport which enabled him to take a great many pictures.

MR TREVOR DONALDSON

Mr Trevor Donaldson, who died on January 30 at Montargis, France, at the age of 70, was a chartered surveyor whose special interest was the development of town centres and shopping complexes.

His portraits continued, but he also made photographic essays on the deaf and the homeless which showed his sympathy with the social concerns of the period.

Your Will

can give us the help we so desperately need in our fight against poverty and despair. For God's sake, care.

Your Will can give us the help we so desperately need in our fight against poverty and despair. For God's sake, care.

سكوا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Cinema

Lipstick before the firing squad



Marlene Dietrich with Gary Cooper in Dishonoured

Marlene (PG) Electric Screen
The Journey of Natty Gann (PG) Cannon Haymarket
The Quiet Earth (15) Premiere Leicester Square
Dangerous Moves (PG) Academy 1
The Scorpion (18) Cannon Panton Street

Dishonoured. At the other end, there is the sequenced grande dame of the later solo concerts, furs squirted round her like whipped cream...

Marlene, then, is infuriating, but rarely boring. Dietrich herself makes sure of that. And there is always the supporting programme for succour.

The Disney company's Journey of Natty Gann is fortunately better than its title. Better, too, than a bare synopsis indicates. Natty, played by an attractive newcomer, Meredith Salenger...

Twenty or 30 years ago Disney's film-makers would probably have settled for the bland thrills and spills of a cross-country trek with a four-legged friend...

world, where the unemployed and discarded children haunt the streets or crouch in shanty towns next to billboards with the ironic slogan 'Home by Train - Travel While You Sleep'...

Some of the world's worst and cheapest films deal with mankind on its last legs. Roger Corman's The Last Woman on Earth, with a tedious cast of three, immediately leaps to mind.

For the first 30 minutes, however, The Quiet Earth exploits its situation with likable verve and wry humour.

tooting on a bass saxophone, moving into desirable addresses, boring himself with snooker. Then his mind starts to crack, the girl shows up, and the film backslides.

International imports dominate this week. The Scorpion hails from the Netherlands, while Switzerland offers Dangerous Moves - last year's mysterious Oscar-winner as the Best Foreign Film.

At least Ben Verborg, director of The Scorpion, is a film-maker to his fingertips, eager to tell his stories with a visual flourish.

Women Beware Women Royal Court



Joanne Whalley as Bianca, Nigel Davenport as the Duke

Second only to Dr Faustus, Women Beware Women is the most tantalizingly imperfect masterpiece in the classical repertory. For four acts, Middleton coolly unfolds the story of a double seduction...

Middleton was a writer who regularly worked in collaboration and you can see the appeal of bringing in a contemporary collaborator to put the piece back on the rails...

The ninety-minute second half, however, is no mere rewrite ending but an energetically sustained attempt to push the entire work in a different direction.

Instruments of corruption

grand adversary of money and political power, and his main emphasis goes on asserting its regenerative powers even for the Duke (played by Nigel Davenport) and the arch-procurer, Livia. To this end, he revivifies all Middleton's victims, and introduces a new victim of his own - the Ward's companion, Sorvido, originally a loutish side-kick, transformed into an embodiment of the alienated young who bursts into the court and rapes Bianca on the morning of her marriage with the Duke.

The dominant impression of William Gaskin's production is one of long-range strategy, which has led the company to soft-pedal the first act so as not to clash openly with the second. Bianca's husband Leantio, for instance, is a humble factor who has managed to win an upper-class girl. When the RSC first revived the piece in 1962 it came over as a class-warfare drama akin to Look Back in Anger.

Irving Wardle

Television

TV Eye (Thames) marked the first anniversary of the teachers' pay dispute by paying a brisk visit to a comprehensive school in Richmond, Yorkshire, a comfortably middle-class town whose ancient streets flood with 1,500 teenagers every lunchtime, there being no teachers prepared to supervise them.

mentors (whom they rivalled for artistry); a meeting of double-glazed, mortgage-paying parents threatened to sue the local education authority for failing to meet the provisions of the law; and a half-moon-bespattered NUT demagogue drew a standing ovation from his loyal members.

Meanwhile, ACAS has arbitrated without managing to conciliate; Introspection holds sway; the money will probably have to be found. Perhaps this report's most useful function was to advertise the teachers' continuing case. Notwithstanding their hefty holidays, they have, in the eyes of many, been underpaid.

Martin Cropper

Concerts

BBC SO/Pritchard Barbican

The BBC rarely lets its Symphony Orchestra out of the new-music paddock to roam among the buffaloes of the 19th-century orchestral repertoire, at least not in the winter season. So it is good news that the orchestra's principal conductor, Sir John Pritchard, is directing all four Brahms symphonies this week at the Barbican.

Cleveland Orchestra/von Dohnanyi Festival Hall

If one of the purposes of a visiting orchestra is to stir a concert capital into questioning and re-assessing its understanding of repertory works, then the Cleveland Orchestra, at the start of their 21-concert tour of Europe, have already succeeded triumphantly.

Richard Morrison

Too often, though, that driving impetus was not strong enough. Rhythmic definition became fuzzy (the outset of No 2's finale was a casualty here) and there was a tendency for phrases to trail off incompletely, especially where Pritchard was quickening the tempo.

Hilary Finch

From the start, von Dohnanyi forces the listener to readjust all sense of scale. The first movement pitted fragments and angles of phrasing against tall, near stifled climaxes; the steel-spiked scherzo was a masterpiece of miniaturism.

Advertisement for 'MOSES' by Rossini, featuring a picture of a man and text about a 'sensational new production'.

Advertisement for 'The Royal Ballet La Fille mal gardée', featuring a picture of a ballerina and text about Ashton's supreme genius.

Advertisement for 'DONALD SINDEN in THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL', featuring a picture of Donald Sinden and text about a 'rumbustious, swaggering adventure tale'.

Advertisement for 'ROWAN ATKINSON', featuring a picture of Rowan Atkinson and text about 'The new revue'.

Advertisement for 'Contemporary Music Network' featuring 'THE LONDON SINFONIETTA' and listing various concert dates and venues.

Advertisement for 'THE MUSICAL SENSATION! Les Misérables' featuring a picture of a woman and text about a 'NEW BOOKING PERIOD'.

Advertisement for 'Royal Opera House' featuring a picture of a woman and text about 'La Fille mal gardée'.

Advertisement for 'Shaftesbury Theatre' featuring a picture of a woman and text about 'The new revue' and 'Rowan Atkinson'.

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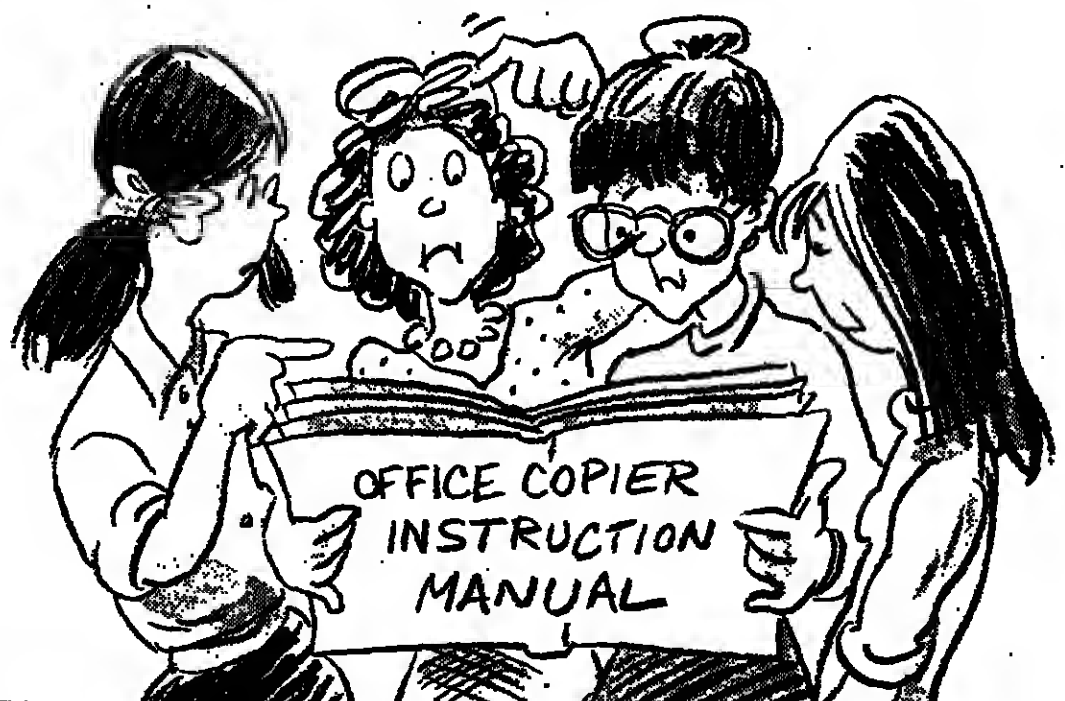
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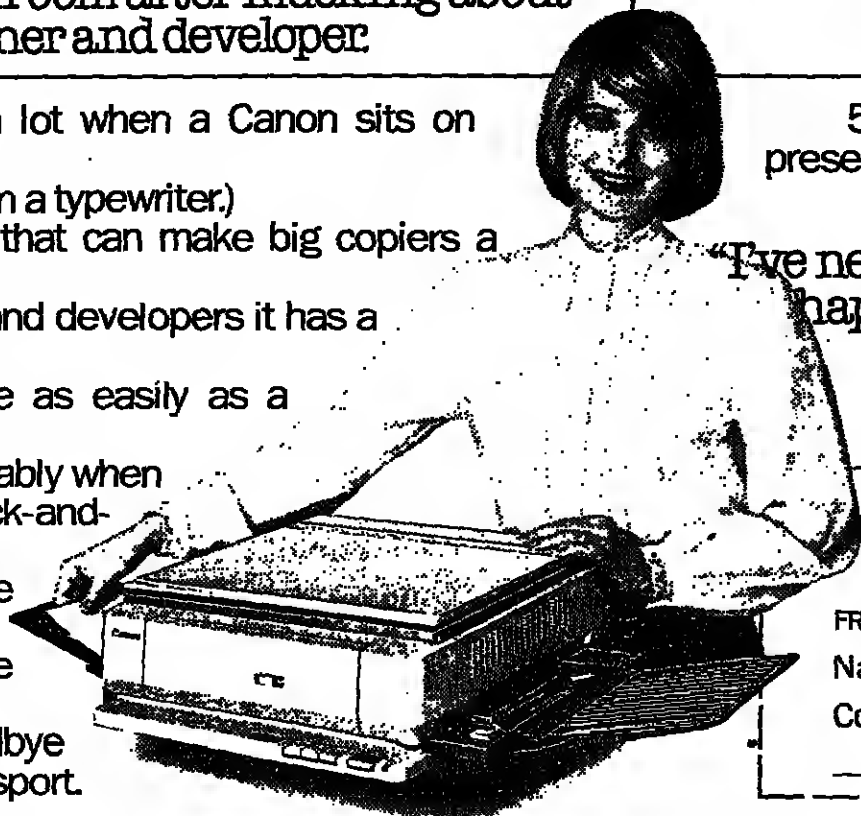
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(+0.0214)

Demerger to clarify

The Takeover Panel has asked Demerger Corporation to clarify several points concerning its takeover bid for Eitel Group.

The request, described by Mr John Walker-Haworth, director-general of the panel, as "an unusual situation", is believed to be for more information about the identity of Demerger's backers, whether or not it intends to offer Eitel shareholders a cash alternative to its paper bid and its links with Dr Ashraf Marwan, the Egyptian financier.

Mr Peter Earl, a director of Demerger and of its advisors Hincorp Earl, said the full details of the bid would be revealed in the offer document if not before.

Offer for sale

Templeton, Galbraith & Hainsberger, a Bahamas fund management group, is coming to the stock market via an offer for sale by Cazenove and Co of 40 million limited voting shares. The price will be set on February 12 and application lists open a week later.

Tempus, page 18

Burton bonds

Burton Group is issuing \$80 million worth of five-year bonds with warrants attached. The issue, arranged by S.G. Warburg, allows Burton to refinance £72 million of its sterling short-term debt. Tempus, page 18

LHW barred

The London International Financial Futures Exchange has won its battle to exclude LHW Futures from membership. In his judgement released yesterday, Sir Anthony Rawlinson, the special commissioner appointed by the Governor of the Bank of England, upheld Liffe's contention that LHW, whose dealings have attracted widespread publicity, would damage its reputation. Sir Anthony also supported Liffe's argument that LHW did not have the standing suitable for a Liffe member.

● **BURMAH OIL:** Hazell has completed sale of its operations in Holland. Partico Rijk has been sold to the senior managers of the company and Quinton Hazell Nederland to Standard Quality Parts. The amount to be received by Burmah is expected to be in region of £2 million.

● **COURTAULDS:** A new agreement was announced today for long-term scientific and technical cooperation between Courtaulds and the State Committee for Science and Technology of the Soviet Union. Dr Norman Wooding, Courtaulds' deputy chairman, said: "The agreement represents a new initiative in the strengthening of the major trading partnership which has been fostered over more than 30 years."

FOR EXCHANGES

The dollar lost ground against most currencies. The pound was weaker than opening levels against most other units, though it remained a touch firmer.

Morning attempts to sell the dollar failed to push it through a key level at DM2.3820. It was weaker against the Swiss franc at 2.0190 (2.0235). The French franc gained at 7.3160 (7.3250) while the yen was little changed at 190.70 (190.65).

MONEY

The money market shortage was larger than expected and this pushed money up to 13 per cent in the interbank market. The market remained uneasy about the outlook for oil prices, but it was conceded that the authorities have the upper hand for the present on 12.5 per cent base rates. Bills settled back, no more than marginally above the Bank of England's intervention rates, while a degree of firmness in interbank periods was confined to the short end.

The Bank of England's bill operations totalled £570 million in the morning and it bought a further £182 million of bank bills in the afternoon. This lifted total bill operations to £752 million.

Argyll raises Distillers bid to record £2.3 billion

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

Mr James Gulliver's Argyll Group yesterday raised the bid in the auction for Distillers, the Scotch whisky group, to a new record figure of £2.3 billion.

At the same time the supermarkets and food manufacturing concern launched a scathing attack on the management record of its rival bidder, Guinness, and that company's claim to be a dynamic new force in international brand marketing.

The timing of Argyll's new offer took the stock market by surprise. Stockbroking analysts were at a loss to explain why Argyll should raise its offer before learning whether the £2.2 billion bid by Guinness would be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. A reference of the brewer's bid would leave the field clear for Argyll.

Mr Gulliver said the new offer gave his group flexibility to buy shares in the market and reemphasized his company's commitment to acquiring Distillers.

Argyll immediately took advantage of the new bid to buy six million Distillers shares in the stock market, raising its effective stake to 22.5 per cent. Mr Gulliver indicated that the group's merchant bank, Samuel Montagu, would carry on buying until it reached the maximum 15 per cent stake allowed under takeover rules.

Mr Gulliver said Argyll recognized the commercial reality that it had to increase its terms at some stage, and that by doing so now it achieved an element of surprise.

He denied that the new terms indicated that Argyll had already taken the view that the Guinness offer would not be referred. He also rejected the suggestion that Argyll had raised the terms to put pressure on the Government to refer the rival offer. The Government might have



James Gulliver, an element of surprise, has been tempted to let the Guinness bid go ahead while the Argyll offer was lower on the grounds that it could be depriving Distillers shareholders of higher terms if it did not.

share was successfully completed yesterday by the stockbroking firms, Rowe & Pitman and Panmure Gordon.

Argyll said that its earnings per share would rise by 24 per cent if the new offer were successful. A new offer on the same terms by Guinness would involve the brewer in earnings dilution of more than 20 per cent, Argyll said.

Mr Olivier Roux, a senior Guinness director, said the claims were "rubbish". He said that Argyll shareholders would be getting "an extremely raw deal" under the new terms.

Guinness's chief executive, Mr Ernest Saunders, said the company remained firmly committed to and "convinced of the benefits both to Distillers shareholders and the industry of the merger with Distillers". Guinness would be reviewing its position with Distillers but still awaited a decision from the Government on whether the offer would be referred.

Opec may meet on Budget day

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Leading members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) are considering calling a full-scale ministerial meeting to coincide with the British Budget on March 18 in a bid to increase downward pressure on North Sea oil prices and highlight the importance of oil prices to the British economy.

The price confusion which normally surrounds a full-scale Opec meeting would, they argue, eat into Britain's revenues from the North Sea as Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, announces the Government's economic plans.

A large faction within the 13-member oil producers' cartel maintains that in March 1983, when Opec set output quotas during its London meeting in London, Mr Lawson, then Energy Secretary, gave Opec an assurance that North Sea output would be limited to 2.1 million barrels a day.

The Government has consistently denied this and since then, North Sea output has risen to around 2.7 million barrels a day.

Sheikh Ali Khalifa, the Kuwaiti oil minister, said yesterday: "I have already said that in the absence of an agreement between Opec and non-Opec members, prices might reach \$10 a barrel."

However, even a sharp fall in prices would be unlikely to persuade any of the oil companies producing offshore to cut back.

● The pound bounced back above \$1.40 yesterday, benefiting from a slight firming of oil prices and dollar weakness, writes David Smith. The sterling index gained 0.3 points to 73.9.

Brent crude oil for delivery in March, after falling to a recent low of \$15.70 a barrel on Wednesday, recovered to \$16.50.

The pound rose to \$1.4050, before slipping back at the close of London trading to \$1.4002, still a gain of around a cent on the day.

UK firms likely to win big USSR orders after accord

By Edward Towse, Industrial Reporter

Nine British companies represented on the British-Soviet Joint Commission stand to win orders worth hundreds of millions of pounds as a result of the new economic and industrial accord reached between the two countries yesterday.

Engineering companies and suppliers of process plant and heavy industrial and power station equipment are among those most likely to succeed.

The two sides in the discussions, due to be completed tomorrow, are concentrating on areas such as chemicals, oil and gas, metal industries, machine tools, and other high technology sectors.

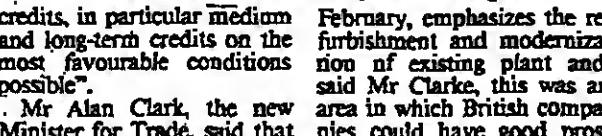
Two companies, John Brown and Davy McKee, are already bidding for several chemical industries turnkey projects and Simon-Carves is bidding for process plant subcontracting work for a big new polyester factory in Russia.

Courtaulds, which has been a supplier of textiles to the USSR for more than 30 years, has recently had discussions with the Russians on the modernization of a textile factory in which it was involved 20 years ago.

Another of Britain's big engineering groups, Babcock International, has recently reached a technical agreement with the Soviet Union which could lead to further business for the company in areas such as gas treatment and coal gasification.

The industrial marine division of Rolls-Royce is hoping for more power station turbine orders. Rank Xerox, also represented on the Commission, sees more opportunities for exports in photocopiering equipment.

Barclays Bank and Morgan-Grenfell Holdings are also members of the Commission, reflecting the importance both countries attached to funding of large industrial projects. The new five-year programme states that within the framework of relevant legislation both sides will make efforts to provide



The British team at the trade talks: Paul Channon (left), Alan Clark and Sir Bryan Cartledge.

February, emphasizes the refurbishment and modernization of existing plant and, said Mr Clarke, this was an area in which British companies could have good prospects.

Trade between Britain and the USSR tends to fluctuate wildly because of the large value of individual projects such as chemical factories.

However, Britain is in eighth position in the list of Western world exporters to the Soviet Union, the leader being West Germany followed by Finland.

UK exports to the USSR were worth £735 million in 1984 but fell to a provisional figure of £537 million in 1985.

The 1984 total included unusually high re-exports of non-ferrous metals, mainly silver and tin. Imports from Russia were worth £854 million in 1984, falling to an estimated £725 million last year.

Britain's biggest purchases from Russia are raw materials, mostly oil and oil-related products, cork and wood, hides and skins, chemicals and road vehicles.

The London session of the Joint Commission is the 13th since it was established in 1970. And its highlight is the new long-term programme for economic and industrial co-operation.

Under the programme's general provisions the participation of organizations, enterprises and firms of the two countries in co-operation projects may comprise the provision of patents, licences, know-how, technical information and new technology.

Most of the sectors in the programme were areas in which the USSR would be seeking to acquire Western products, services and technology. A programme such as this, said Mr Clark, provided the best available substitute to normal market research.

There were good prospects for British companies for the export of technology and equipment for the chemical and petrochemical, oil and gas sectors. Opportunities also existed in the fields of instrumentation and control systems, food and agriculture, and many other sectors.

The new Soviet five-year plan up to 1990, which is to be endorsed at the party congress at the end of

Reagan report scales peaks of optimism

The White House is irrepressible. Hot on the heels of spending proposals which merely served to illustrate the atrocious tensions in American budgetary policy, President Reagan yesterday predicted three more years of robust growth. Some 4 per cent or more each year, he maintained, could be expected as the result of a successful "economic formula" lodged in the early days of his Administration.

In his 1986 economic report to Congress Mr Reagan said that, despite a painful transition from the recession of 1982, the United States was now poised for a new era of sustained growth. Its hallmarks would be low federal spending, low taxes, limited federal regulations and, most important, low inflation.

The report is nothing if not optimistic. It concedes that America's trade deficit will fall a little this year from the record \$148.7 billion recorded in 1985. But it argues that increased business investment and continued consumer spending will raise America's growth rate from 2.5 per cent in 1985 to 4 per cent. Unemployment, it forecasts, will decline slightly, to 6.7 per cent, and inflation will rise only modestly, from 3.2 per cent to 3.8 per cent.

Mr Beryl Sprinkel, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, serves as the Administration's chief optimist. Undeterred by the failure to meet growth figures in last year's official forecasts, he brushed aside private economic forecasts for 1986, which are mainly well below those of the Administration. He has one genuine cause to believe outside forecasts are too low: few take account of the most recent fall in the oil price. The consensus among private economists is growth of 3 per cent this year. But Mr Sprinkel said that, because of the sharp decline in oil prices, most are raising their forecasts.

The President's report does its best to assuage other obvious worries such as the rise in household debt late last year to 82 per cent as a share of disposable personal income (a matter of concern to Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board). At the same time, the report plays down the significance of the national hunch into debt. Americans have become a net debtor nation for the first time since

World War I. The amount of US assets held by foreigners exceeds foreign assets held by the US, and the excess is expanding at an annual rate of \$100 billion.

Pressure mounts to settle ITC debts

As negotiations between the International Tin Council and its creditors drag on, there is an intensifying danger that the issue will be decided by external forces.

The 13 London Metal Exchange brokers involved with the ITC are now paying collectively £800,000 a week in interest charges on positions on which the ITC defaulted. It is a pressure few can stand for much longer.

Worse, the tin price is drifting down to a level at which the arithmetic of Newco, the company proposed by bankers and brokers to take over the ITC's obligations, looks fragile. Mines are receiving about £5,200 a tonne for their output - noticeably below the £6,000 on which Newco is based and a far cry from the £8,000 enjoyed last October.

There are technical reasons for this. On the supply side, some mines, particularly in Malaysia, are making forced sales. Tin trading started in Kuala Lumpur because Malaysian mines and smelters needed an outlet.

On the demand side, purchases are limited by users' hopes that prices could fall further. But it would be a brave broker indeed who depended on so precarious a balance. The more protracted the crisis, the greater the risk that tin prices will be too low to support even Newco's limited aspirations. For that reason, the ITC is clearly now concentrating its fire on the British Government. Having failed to wring much extra finance from the banks and brokers, the council hopes HMV will shoulder the burden, which by any reasonable standard, is the ITC's.

It is vital the Government does not succumb to this invidious pressure. Considered brutally, it is better that a number of LME brokers go bust than the British Government be inveigled by an organisation, of which it is a member, to assume all the other members' debts.

Low fees for new members

Yesterday's Stock Exchange council announcement that the entry fee charged to new members would be in the lowly range of £10,000 to £50,000 is clear proof, if any more was needed, of the council's fear of market fragmentation.

Entry fees of up to £700,000 were suggested a few months ago when there was much talk about the value of the exchange's assets in both buildings and technology. But the unwelcome appearance last October of ISRO, the proposed International Securities Regulatory Organisation, coupled with the Securities and Investment Board's willingness to accept it as a recognised SRO, have caused a fundamental rethink by the council.

ISRO was the brainchild of overseas brokers and market makers operating in the Eurobond and international securities markets, who were independent of the Stock Exchange and wanted to stay that way.

The SIB's distinction between an SRO and a Recognized Investment Exchange, caused the council further headaches.

The SIB's thinking was that the exchange function of regulating markets should be distinguished from the SRO function of regulating investment business. The Stock Exchange would qualify as both, but to many at the exchange, the distinction was not a necessary one and would pave the way for more fragmentation and duplication. It would also open the door for members of other SRO's like ISRO and Nasdim to use the exchange's facilities.

Yesterday's announcement was the council's answer to the onslaught - "Keep it cheap and keep potential new members sweet".

Applicants with more than 150 approved employees will pay the top price of £50,000 and those with 10 or less approved employees will pay £10,000.

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Banks reluctant over new Mexican credit

By Mike Graham and Richard Thomson

Bankers in New York said yesterday that Mexico would need to be rescued from its debt crisis with help from international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Experts believe that Mexico may ask for credit of a further \$4 billion this year as a result of the oil price fall, on top of the \$4 billion it has already arranged to borrow.

After a conference in Manhattan with Mexican government officials, representatives of United States domestic and international banks said that it was unlikely that the banks could provide all the necessary loans to help Mexico to make its interest payments.

The attitude of commercial banks is hardening against lending to Mexico any extra money which may be required as a result of a

Stockley ties up £80m deal

By Judith Hamley

Stockley, the property company, has finalized its £80.25 million purchase of most of the Paternoster Square complex next to St Paul's Cathedral in London.

The Church Commissioners, along with several property companies, have sold the complex - which has six office buildings and a shopping centre - to Paternoster Consortium Ltd, the joint venture led by Stockley.

Its partners are British Land and the pension funds of Unilever and Barclays Bank. The same group has been involved in the successful redevelopment of Unilever's surplus buildings at Blackfriars.

Charterhouse Japhet, the tenant of Sheldon House at Paternoster Square, has confirmed it is buying its building with the consortium for £14 million, making the residual price for the 4.5-acre scheme £66 million.

The consortium intends to invite six leading City architects to put up proposals for the sensitive site which has 300,000 sq ft of space.

The consortium members are each putting equity into the scheme.

Speculative buying helps shares move up to fresh peak

By Our City Staff

Distillers shares jumped 25p to 606p in the stock market yesterday as Argyll Group increased its takeover terms. But intriguingly Argyll declined the chance to snap up a block of 27 million Distillers shares offered by stockbrokers Fielding

The FT Ordinary Share Index closed at 1171.7, up 8.6, a new record.

Newson-Smith at a price of 630p and representing around 7.5 per cent of the Distillers equity.

The shares, cobbled together from about 60 different institutions, were turned down by Argyll on the grounds that it saw no reason to pay more than the market price.

Meanwhile, the Distillers shares still trailed behind the Argyll terms in fears that the new offer could still be sucked into a Monopolies reference with rival bidders Guinness.

Elsewhere, the market moved to another new peak helped by a variety of speculative issues. Government stocks added nearly a

point to a firmer pound but nits remained unsettled by price uncertainties. Most majors were easier including BP, down 5p at 545p.

Among leaders Glaxo eased 10p to 880p on a downgrading of profits by brokers while TI advanced 6p to 40p as dealers continued to dream of a bid from Evered, 15p down at 538p.

An advance in textiles was led by Courtaulds, 6p ahead at 226p. Rumours of a counter bid pushed Coats up 6p at 231p.

The video tie-up with Woolworth boosted Prest-

which 12p at 136p while thoughts of a bid from Pleasurama left the brewery group Vaux 7p up at 380p.

In stores Dixons were 15p to the good at 994p ahead of next week's share split while tipsters helped S.W. Berisford move to 149p, a rise of 5p.

Amstrad continued to be a pacemaker and struck a fresh peak of 288p, a 12p rise on the day, on increased profits likely from its compact discs.

There was keen speculative interest in Illingsworth, up 10p at 113p, James Neill 12p better at 196p, and Hickson Interna-

Dow gains 12 points

The Dow Jones industrial average broke through the 1600 level in heavy early trading, gaining 12.61 points to 1605.73.

Advances led declines by 887 to 445 among the 1,784 issues crossing the tape. Big Board volume amounted to about 55.1 million shares. Traders said that European buying helped the market in the opening stages, and it became stronger in the ab-

WALL STREET

ence of a major correction.

In the long-term the market is "very bullish," said Mr Hildegard Zeporski, of Prudential-Bache Securities.

AT and T was the most active issue, losing 1-4 to 21 5-8. PepsiCo followed, down 2 3-8 to 70 1-4.

Prices were higher in active trading on the American Stock Exchange.

COMPANY NEWS

● **GLANFIELD LAWRENCE:** The sale of group's freehold premises at Burton on Trent has now been completed. The price was £290,000, which together with the substantial reduction in investment in stocks has resulted in the group's indebtedness.

● **BRIKAT GROUP:** The company is to acquire Gobeystyle and South Coast Business Machines, which together have three business centres, in a big expansion of the Brikat business centres division. The initial consideration for Gobeystyle is £337,000 in ordinary shares.

TEMPUS LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES COMMODITIES

Bulls beef up the gilts market but US lags

The gilt market started stabilizing late on Wednesday, witness the storming performance after hours of the tap, Treasury 10 per cent 2003, which advanced nearly 1/2 point to £367 1/2. Yesterday saw a continuation of the trend after a comparatively quiet start which saw prices drifting fractionally. But by late morning the bulls were definitely in the ascendency and good quality selective buying pushed prices ahead over lunch by some 1/4 point. By mid-afternoon, the tap was trading a large buying order below £37.

Table with columns: Three Month Sterling, Open, High, Low, Close, Set Vol. Includes data for various dates and interest rates.

Table with columns: LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE, COFFEE, COPPER, SOYABEAN, RUBBER, SUGAR, WAX, etc. Includes prices and changes.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table with columns: Market rates, Market rates, Market rates. Includes Sterling spot and forward rates for various currencies.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table with columns: Local Authority Deposits, Local Authority Bonds, Starting Rates, etc. Includes interest rates and gold prices.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table with columns: Argentina austral, Australia dollar, Bahraini riyal, etc. Includes exchange rates for various international currencies.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table with columns: 100 High Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists various investment trusts and their performance.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

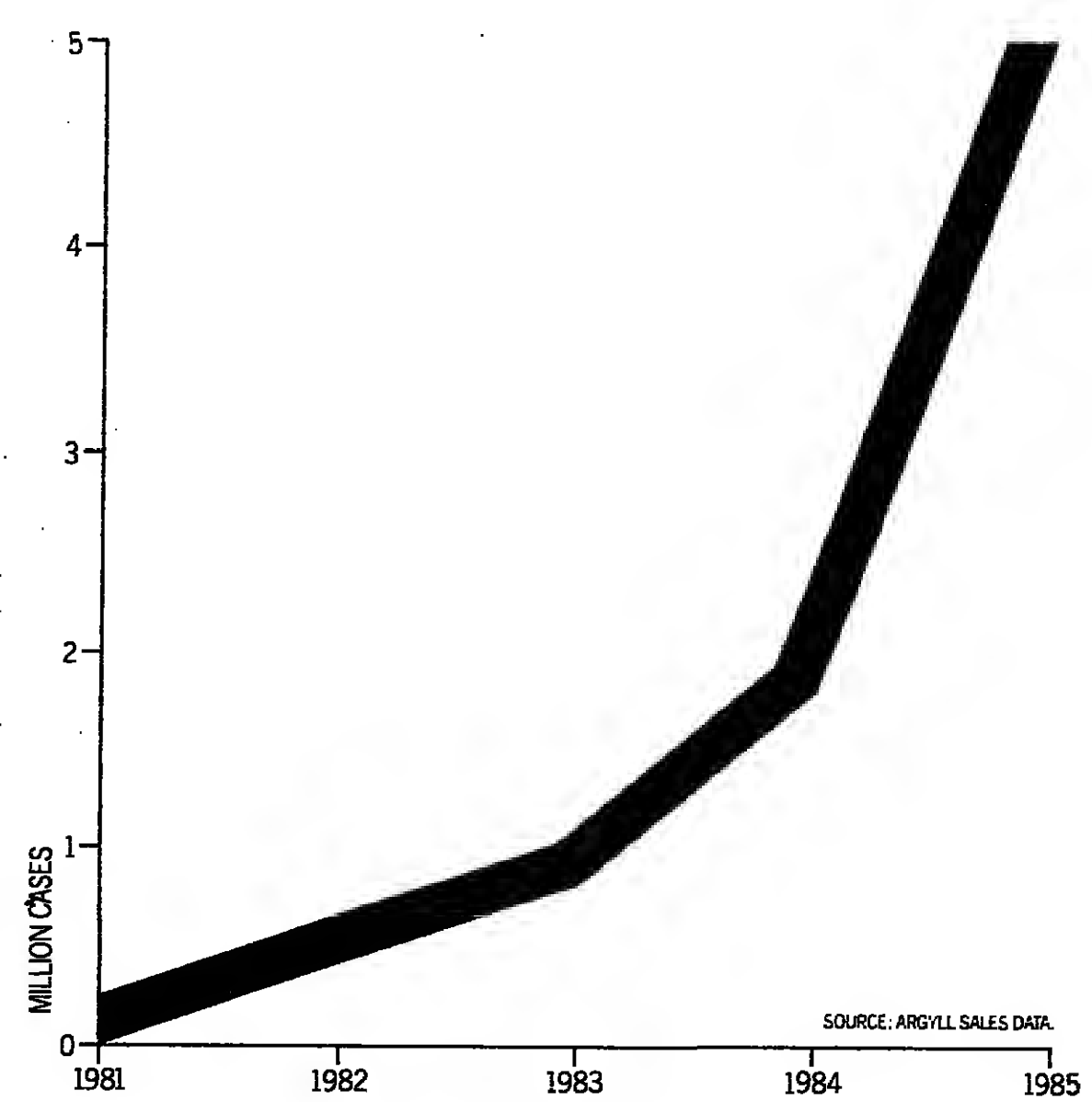
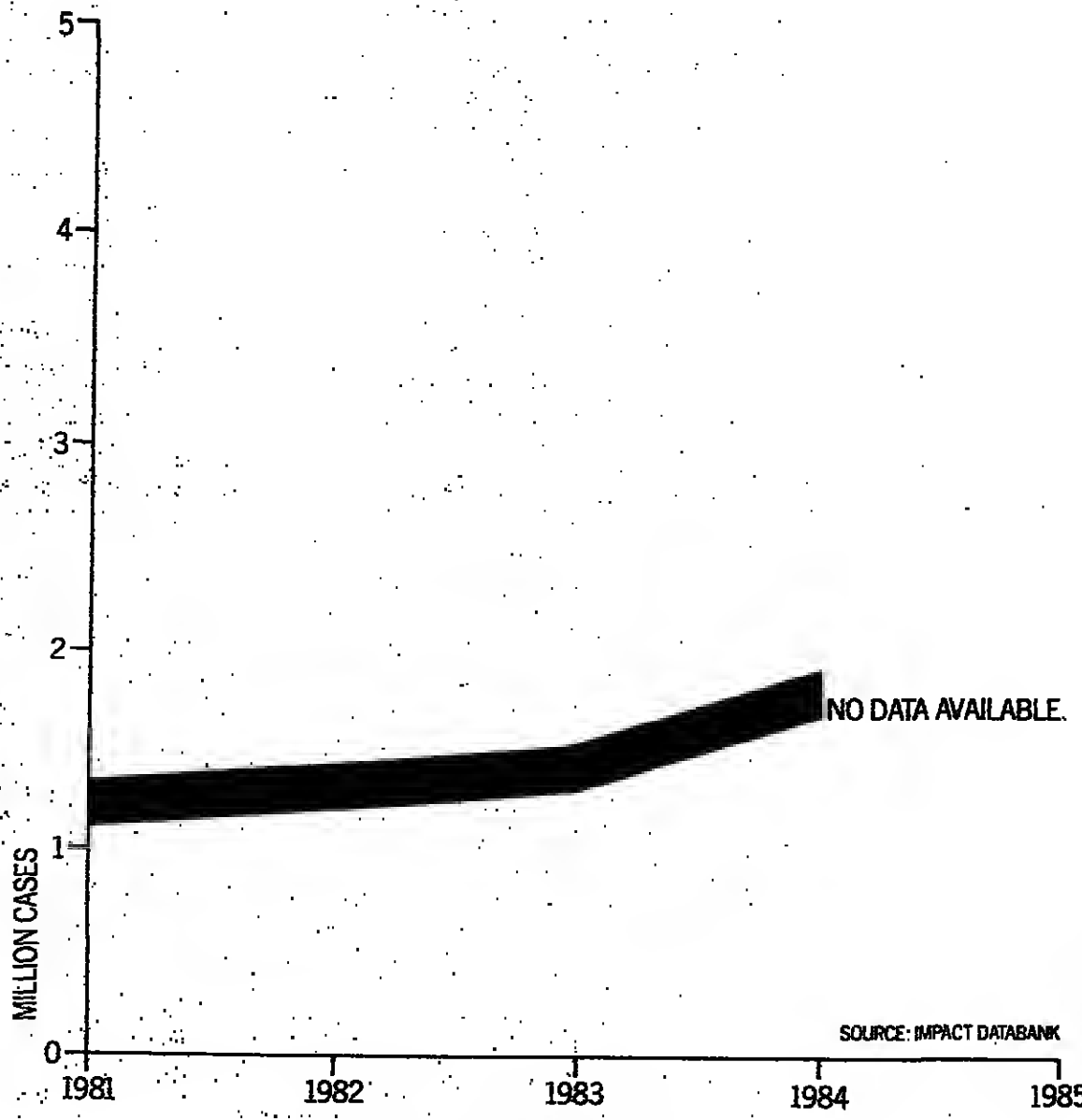
Table with columns: Ireland, Singapore, Malaysia, etc. Includes dollar spot rates for various regions.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Large table containing unit trust information, including columns for Unit Name, Bid, Offer, Change, and YTD. Lists numerous unit trusts and their current market values.

Quotations in this edition refer to Wednesday's prices

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Who would
 you rather have
 on your side
 in a tough
 American bar?

Argyll. We can revive Distillers' spirits.

Four out of six for Thatcher in her battle with the past

By Kenneth Fleet

There are many ways of gauging Mrs Thatcher's performance. I would judge her by progress in six areas that are fundamental to the renaissance of Britain, while always bearing in mind that no Government can possibly reform in six or eight years the reactionary institutions and outmoded attitudes that flourished as recently as 1979. The six areas are:

- 1 The value of money. A free society and high rates of inflation cannot exist together. Mrs Thatcher made lower, low, indeed nil inflation her central target. Five-plus per cent is not complete success but she has not given up the struggle.
- 2 The overwhelming authority of autocratic trade unions. To many, though not to timorous and corporatist members of the Confederation of British Industry, the Government has not done enough to curb illegitimate trade union power. But the barons have been brought within the law where they no longer feel free to ride roughshod over elected governments, innocent employers and their own members. The value of laws on secondary picketing and secret ballots has been repeatedly demonstrated. The enforcement of the law in places where the old immunities once stood has had salutary effects.
- 3 The role of the state in industry and commerce. The abolition of controls over dividends, credit, foreign exchange and overseas investment was a magnificent beginning. When the present programme is completed, about a quarter of the state corporations will have been privatized. In terms of greater efficiency, responsiveness and energy, privatization is already a success. The road to a freer society in which decision-making is dispersed and choices are not dictated by a central bureaucracy, each act of denationalization is an important milestone.
- 4 The welfare state. Though kicked, abused and milked in painful and inefficient ways, this is a sacred British cow; the totem guaranteeing desirable standards of health, social security, sickness and unemployment benefits, housing and pensions. Desirable, but unfortunately not easily affordable given the country's economic performance and ageing population. A more sensible approach is to have an order of

but not achievement in reviving the Protestant work ethic. But above all I would give her time. The question for us is whether after a bare six or eight years of Mrs Thatcher and her commitment to a market economy, the more conservative British electorate will also want to put the clock back. With the appalling experience of the 1970s still vivid in most memories, can the answer seriously be "yes" or even "maybe"?

The Government majority in the House is huge but not indestructible, particularly if the electorate has accepted a three-party system and is ready to indulge in strategic voting. No party leader in this century has won three general elections in a row.

In my own view, Mrs Thatcher will be the first, provided she raises the level of political argument and revives the public's confidence that not only does she see her objectives clearly—a free society sustained by energy and talent, dignified by compassion and living by civilized values—but she and her ministers possess the imagination and will to understand and put into effect practical means for achieving them.

Nowhere is this more important than in manufacturing industry. If we are to have a viable mass production motor industry, we need to come to terms with Japanese manufacturers prepared to set up in Britain. If we want to sustain, let alone expand, exports, attitudes among Treasury and other civil servants and British diplomats abroad need to be brought into line with British commercial interests. If we want a significant electronics industry, we need a constructive understanding between British Telecommunications and the companies clustered around BT, plus a positive and determined Department of Trade and Industry. If we want a new dynamic that will not only revive industry but fire the spirit, we need infrastructure projects of the future like EuroRoute (unfortunately set aside in favour of the "safe" Channel rail tunnel) and satellite broadcasting systems.

Progress in privatization is already enough to end the divisions in the political and managerial minds between public and private enterprise. In such an end we would see a new beginning.

This is a shortened version of an article that first appeared in British Credit Trust's Comment magazine.

With the suggested sale of British Leyland in General Motors and Ford, the manufacturing industry is again under a fierce spotlight. The fate of manufacturing has a powerful bearing on Mrs Thatcher's chances of a third term.

priorities which would permit inevitably limited resources to be concentrated more in areas and on people in greatest need. The Department of Health and Social Security under Mr Norman Fowler has got over the message that choices have to be made and has indicated what they might be. It is not a popular message but it is a beginning.

5 Education. Probably no one subscribes to the view that education in this country is properly attuned to the social and economic needs of the civilized and relatively affluent society we are and hope to remain. Antiquated syllabuses would be less offensive if the quality of education provided in all schools was of decent standard. It is the one critical area where the Government has achieved little. The political perversion of teaching continues unchecked.

6 The creation of wealth. Mrs Thatcher has made "supply side economics" her credo. The channels, gutters and drains of industry and commerce are being gradually unblocked. Businessmen have been invited, and through harsher economic conditions often forced, to stand on the fast-moving, enterprising feet they said they had if only government would get off their backs. The top rate of income tax is now 60 per cent. Share options are an incentive to build up capital.

Small businesses could hardly ask for more, except the removal of time-consuming restrictions which Lord Young of Graffham has already half-promised them. But after six years of enlightened Thatcherism, there are disappointingly few signs that work, as distinct from employment, has any more appeal than it did. The practical virtue of creating wealth by more efficient and expanding production we still prefer to neglect.

On my scale of six, therefore, I would give Mrs Thatcher high marks in her first four tests; no marks for education (ironically education was her first department); and marks for effort

New team named at store

F W Woolworth: The company has named six new buying and marketing managers — Mr Chris Ash, Mr Peter Curtis, Miss Sally Holland, Mr Ken Lewis, Mr Fred Phillips and Ms Jane Eggleston.

Blick Communications: Mr Chris Cankett has been appointed managing director of the manufacturers of Datsun Alphametric radio paging systems.

Polymark: Mr Peter Stubbs, managing director of Polymark Technographics, has joined the board of the parent company, Polymark International.

Collins-Wilde: Mr Terry Brand has joined the board, Advisory Service.

First Environment: Mr Mark Fear is to be marketing director. He will also be marketing director of the subsidiary, First Architecture.

Jenson Heavy Metals: Mr Brian Nathan has been appointed to the board. He will also be a director of CSW Engineering.

Homequity: The company has appointed Mr Drew Dunne as director of sales and marketing.

Legal and General: Mr John Hawkins has become marketing communications manager.

Sims Catering Butchers: Mr Brian Glynn has become a director.

Cullen's Holdings: Mrs Ruth Kraus has been appointed commercial director. George Wimpey: Mr R H Sellar has become group managing director responsible for the international and engineering division.

Eastlight: Mr T F Bolter has been appointed deputy chairman. He will retain his marketing and sales portfolio.

Mr D R Llewellyn becomes managing director and chief executive and Mr S D Helliday financial and commercial director.

Blackwood Hodge: Mr Peter J Wall has been named as a director of Blackwood Hodge Group Services.

Barclays Merchant Bank: Mr Chris Wynn has been appointed an assistant director.

Davidson Pearce: Ms Diana Wooley becomes group company secretary. Mr Peter Selvey has been appointed finance director of the main agency.

Egon Zehnder International: Mr John J Grambar has been elected a partner.

Schering Holdings: Mr Terry James has become chairman and chief executive. Other board appointments include Sir Jock Taylor and Mr Mike Wallace as financial director. The company secretary is Mr Martya Hargreaves.

Firm with an edge on its rivals

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Chris McCullough at 36 has just pulled back into respectable profit a family cutting tools business launched by his late father nearly 30 years ago. Recession had taken its toll and skill shortages had been a problem.

Now this production-oriented managing director, who confesses to being a lightweight on skills like finance and marketing, is getting off the ground a separate venture which he believes has a world lead in putting a long-life edge on anything made out of metal. It involves impregnating the surface of steel and cast-iron with carbide which is the long-life material whose best-known application is the tungsten carbide tips of masonry drills.

Mr McCullough's breakthrough has been in producing a machine with a high-precision specification which customers can incorporate into their own production process. Users of machine tools and similar equipment report that their equipment's useful life has been extended between five and 20 times. The life of many metal goods, from fish hooks to jet engine turbine blades, can be extended. Carbide's anti-corrosion properties are an additional benefit with household goods, particularly gardening and other tools.

Until the beginning of this month, financing problems meant Mr McCullough was faced with trying to build his machine sales piecemeal. This would have meant forfeiting the chance of order from suppliers in bulk to secure volume discounts. But he is just back from the United States where one of two backers for the new venture has put in orders which, Mr McCullough says, have transformed the situation.

The two McCullough companies are Atlas Broach, which manufactures cutting tools, and the recently launched Carbide Impregnation, both located at Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, on an industrial estate adjacent to the M1. It is the



Chris McCullough and the Trakker 1: high-precision breakthrough in cutting tools business

which is still a family concern with Mr McCullough as managing director.

He is also managing director of Carbide Impregnation for health reasons, the works manager at Nelson died, as a shortage of skilled operatives grew worse.

Mr McCullough recalled: "By the end of 1982 we were down to 15 people and we had to close down Nelson. I had no administrative experience, having been involved with the factory and technical trouble-shooting. I knew little about sales or marketing."

At the beginning of 1983, prospects seemed bleak as the company fought for business. With companies becoming increasingly cost conscious, it seemed a possibility for Atlas to exploit the carbide impregnation technology as a cheaper alternative to titanium

Nelson, Lancashire, and by then more than 40 were being employed by the McCullough interests. But then Mr McCullough's father, Gerard McCullough, virtually retired for health reasons, the works manager at Nelson died, as a shortage of skilled operatives grew worse.

Mr McCullough recalled: "By the end of 1982 we were down to 15 people and we had to close down Nelson. I had no administrative experience, having been involved with the factory and technical trouble-shooting. I knew little about sales or marketing."

At the beginning of 1983, prospects seemed bleak as the company fought for business. With companies becoming increasingly cost conscious, it seemed a possibility for Atlas to exploit the carbide impregnation technology as a cheaper alternative to titanium

Zones beckon the leasing companies

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Leasing companies which are rapidly running out of tax shelters in Britain are turning their attention to the fiscal advantages of enterprise zones.

Security Pacific and The Royal Bank of Scotland are among the first to make their names known in significant zone transactions — the RBS for financing Cameron Hall's £120 million out-of-town shopping Metrocentre at Gateshead, and Security Pacific for funding Marples International's 300,000 sq ft office development in London's Docklands.

Now Mountleigh, the fast-growing property company, has put together a deal on 12 acres of land in the Telford enterprise zone, Northhamptonshire. The company will lead and finance the scheme, which is being carried out with Central and Urban Securities. The four-phase project is east of Telford town centre and close to the M54.

Hybrid office and production space is being provided. The first phase has already been let to the Inland Revenue for pure office use at rents of £6 a sq ft, a figure

close to office rents at Telford. Industrial rents are £2.30 a sq ft.

Richard Ellis, the estate agent, which is advising Mountleigh, says that February is the best time to buy ahead of the fiscal year. There are essentially three types of investor in this specialized market — the large leasing organizations, large corporate investors such as pension funds and entrepreneurial property companies and private individuals.

Mountleigh's Telford scheme, which can indeed be described as entrepreneurial, has been priced at a 6 per cent pretax yield, rising to 14.5 per cent. Interest costs are being covered at that

level with the prospect of some real rental growth later. The attractions of some enterprise zones are greater than others. Richard Ellis believes that North West Kent, Wellingborough and some of the Scottish and Welsh zones will be the most attractive in addition to Telford and Docklands.

The Isle of Dogs enterprise zone in London has already attracted Security Pacific. And GT Management, one of the City's biggest investment houses, intends setting up an office there. The company recently bought Blackwell Grant, a small private company set up by Mr Nickolas Medhurst

Companies urged to help start-ups

Medway Enterprise Agency, which after nearly four years of operations claims to have created or saved more than 2,300 jobs locally, is looking for more sponsors among bigger companies willing to help. The agency has been tackling the aftermath of the Chatham Dockyard closure by encouraging start-ups of small businesses and counselling existing small companies.

Some 630 start-ups have had assistance through the agency, and counselling has helped about 300 existing companies to expand. To stimulate business, trade exhibitions have been organized and a club launched to encourage trade among local businesses.

Local authorities have already provided some business premises for smaller companies but the agency is also negotiating to set up a big workshop development in the Medway towns which will also offer counselling and help with marketing of goods and services.

One key sponsor is GEC Avionics, whose factory is at Rochester. Lloyds, BP and Barclays Bank together with local authorities are also among the sponsors. Mr Glyn Thomas, the agency chairman, says that sponsorship can pay off because an area with rising employment is

more likely to attract the new skilled people that bigger local companies sometimes need badly.

When the agency becomes partly or wholly self-financing, as is planned, sponsors companies will still have a vital counselling role to play, says Mr Thomas. Contact: Medway Enterprise Agency, Railway Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4RR; phone (0634) 400301.

Young people in particular can benefit from being introduced to the option of self-employment because it exposes them to a wider range of career choices and equips them with skills for use in life generally, according to a new publication. Guidelines for Youth Enterprise, just out from Business in the Community, the umbrella body for enterprise agencies.

The guidelines are intended to help mainly those staffing enterprise agencies as well as other professionals working with young people. They have been researched by David Grayson, cofounder of Project North East, an enterprise agency based in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr Grayson said: "In the future more and more people will be working for themselves for at least part of their time in some of their work-

petition, now in its second year and funded by British Telecom. It is organized through local chambers of commerce.

Businesses will be judged on turnover and profit growth, product or service innovation, customer satisfaction, staff relations and the use of modern technologies. More than £70,000 in prizes is on offer, with the winner due to pick up £10,000 in cash and £2,500 worth of British Telecom equipment.

Entry forms are in local chambers of commerce or British Telecom district offices. Completed forms have to be in by June 15. Those entering should have been established as businesses for at least two years.

Two former barristers, Diane Webber and Suzanne Fisch, who have launched Legal Briefings as a consultancy, offer advice on employment law to small and medium-sized businesses.

Seminars covering the various aspects of individual employment law for people in business can be set up at a client's own premises so no staff time is lost in travelling or attending lengthy conferences.

Contact: Legal Briefings, 96 Millway, Mill Hill, London NW7 3JJ. Telephone (071) 959 8855.

MR FRIDAY

"Honestly, I'd love to give you the contract but I was fired this morning"

If people grow up with realization and have first-hand experience of being enterprising they will be better able to overcome the problems which will inevitably occur and to grasp opportunities as they present themselves.

The guidelines highlight main problem areas in encouraging youth enterprise and suggest possible solutions.

Contact: Business in the Community, 272A City Road, London EC1V 1LX; £5.50, including postage.

Independent companies and partnerships with up to 25 employees are eligible for the 1986 Small Business Efficiency Awards competition.

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COMPANY NEWS

- GREENBANK GROUP:** The company has acquired from J. Blackborough and Sons, a subsidiary of Hopkins Holdings, its water and effluent screening equipment product lines for £89,000 cash. This "significantly enhances" Greenbank's standing as a worldwide supplier of this type of equipment.
- CHEMTRONIC:** A total of about 87 per cent of the rights issue of convertible preferred ordinary shares have been taken up. The balance of 1,090,284 has been sold in the market at a premium and the net proceeds will be distributed pro rata among the provisional allottees except that any individual amounts of less than £2.00 will be retained for the benefit of the company.
- CEMENT-ROADSTONE:** The group's Netherlands subsidiary, Van Neebos, has acquired Sürvik Bouwmarkt, an operator of five DIY superstores, for 4.2 million florins (£1.2 million) cash. In 1985, these stores had sales of 20 million florins and a profit of about a million florins. This brings the number of stores in the Van Neebos DIY retailing division to 19 with 375,500 sq ft of covered floor space.
- RUO ESTATES:** The company is paying a final dividend of 4p (11.2p), making a total of 7p (16p) for the year to June 30, 1985. Turnover fell from £5.72 million to £2.97 million. Pretax profit slumped to £1.55 million (against £4.19 million). Earnings per share were 65.2p (151p).
- TUNSTALL TELECOM:** Mr Michael Dawson, the chairman, told the annual meeting that with four months of the current year behind it, the company is receiving a record level of orders.
- ORPHEUS:** The company has acquired from Orbis Publishing the assets of its book publishing division, which has annual sales of £8 million, for £2.7 million cash. The business, which specializes in illustrated books, will in future trade as Orbis Book Publishing Corporation.
- THORN EMI:** The company intends to offer 85p cash for each of the 662,193 6 per cent preference shares. Thorn EMI, although holding all the ordinary shares, does not hold any of the 6 per cent preference.
- SEARS ROEBUCK:** Consolidated net income for 1985 \$21.3 billion (\$21.4 billion) or \$23.33 (\$24.01) per share.
- COOKSON GROUP:** The company has acquired through Wauconda Tool and Engineering Co of Algonquin, Chicago, and also an 80 per cent holding in General Metals Finishing of Attleboro, Mass., with an option to purchase the remainder. Wauconda is a designer and manufacturer of complex precision metal stampings for the automotive and electronic industries. GMF specializes in the plating of metal stampings for the automotive electronic and jewellery industries. The total consideration is not material in relation to the net assets of Cookson Group.
- KLARK-TEKNIK:** Terms have been agreed for the acquisition of Dearden-Davies Associates. The maximum consideration is £750,000 in cash and the issue of 1.53 million ordinary shares.
- CHEVRON CORP:** Gulf Oil (Ireland), wholly owned by Chevron Corp, announces as operator for Irish offshore licence 5/82 a discovery of oil in well 50/6-1. The well, which has been plugged and abandoned at a total depth of 7750 ft, is located in the Celtic Sea off the South-east coast of Ireland at a water depth of 240 ft.
- FALCON MINES:** For the quarter to Dec. 31, compared with the previous quarter, with figures in \$Zambian000, total mine profit 1,130 (1,771). Pretax profit 1,290 (1,792).

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C.H. Hoare & Co	12 1/2%
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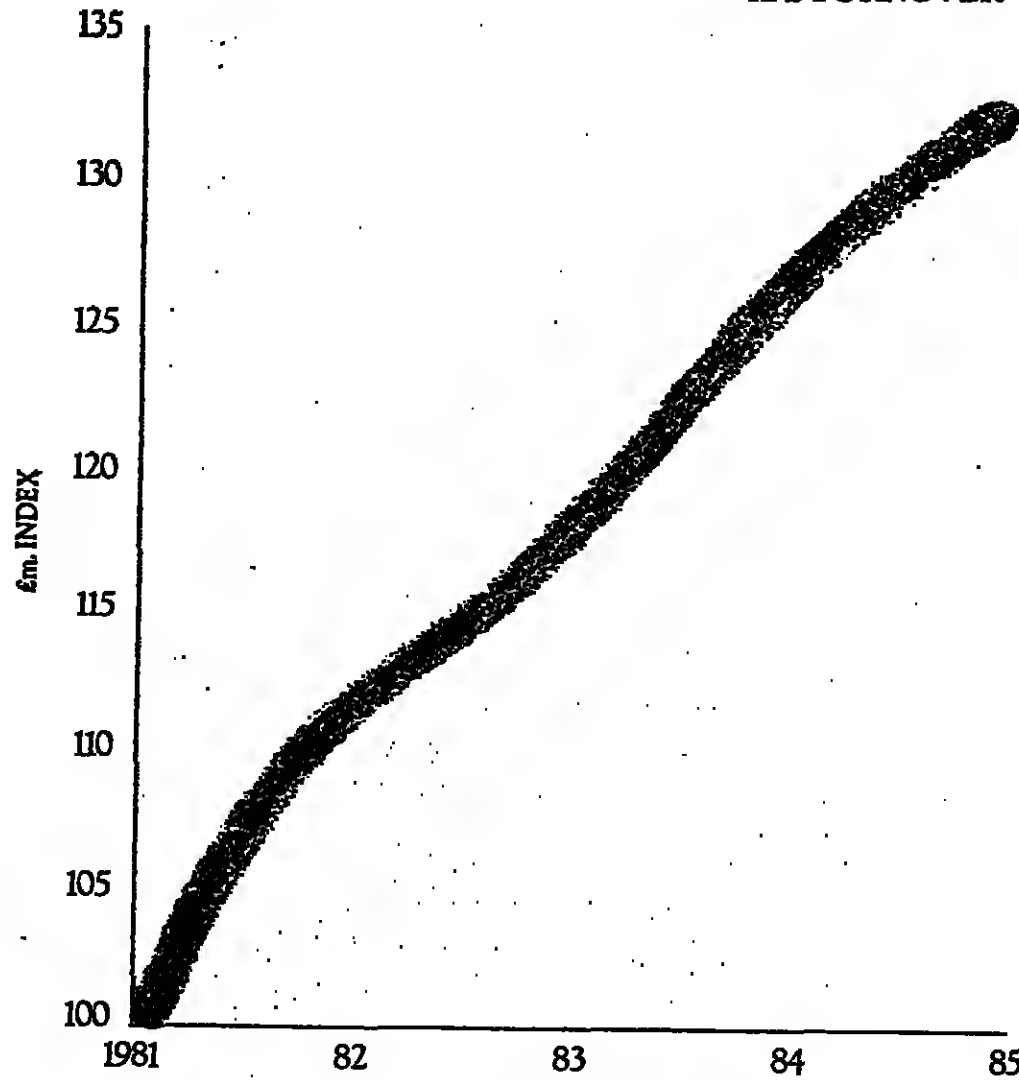
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BASE LENDING RATES

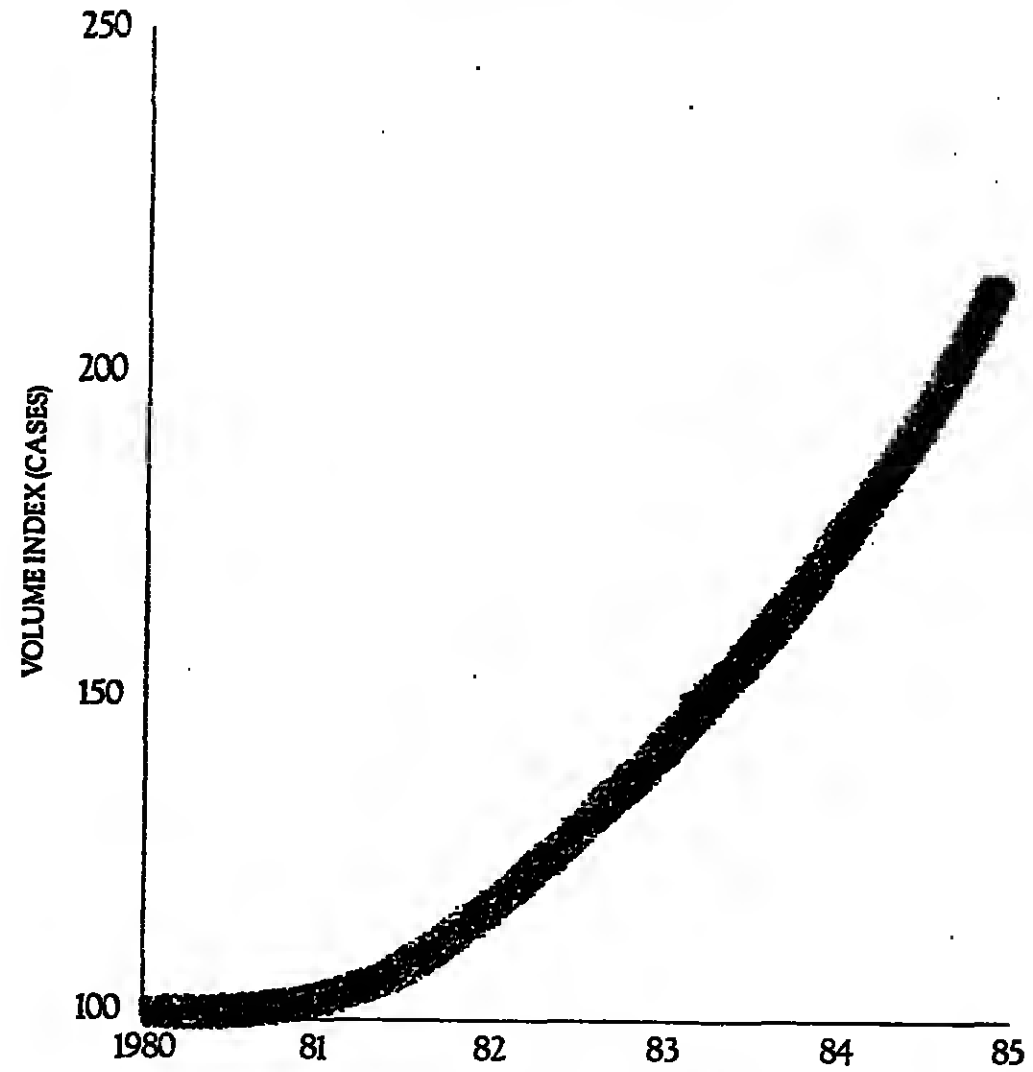
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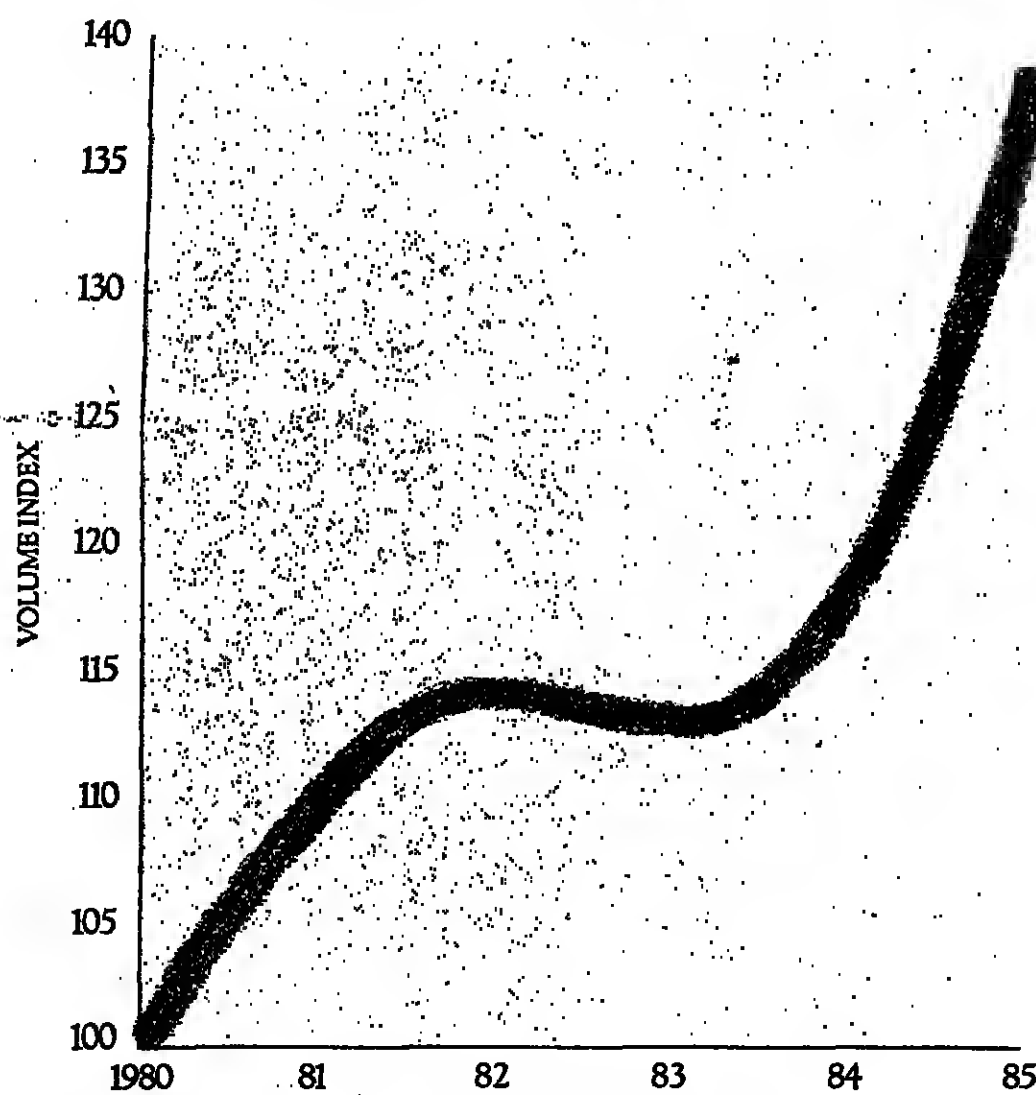
UP 32%

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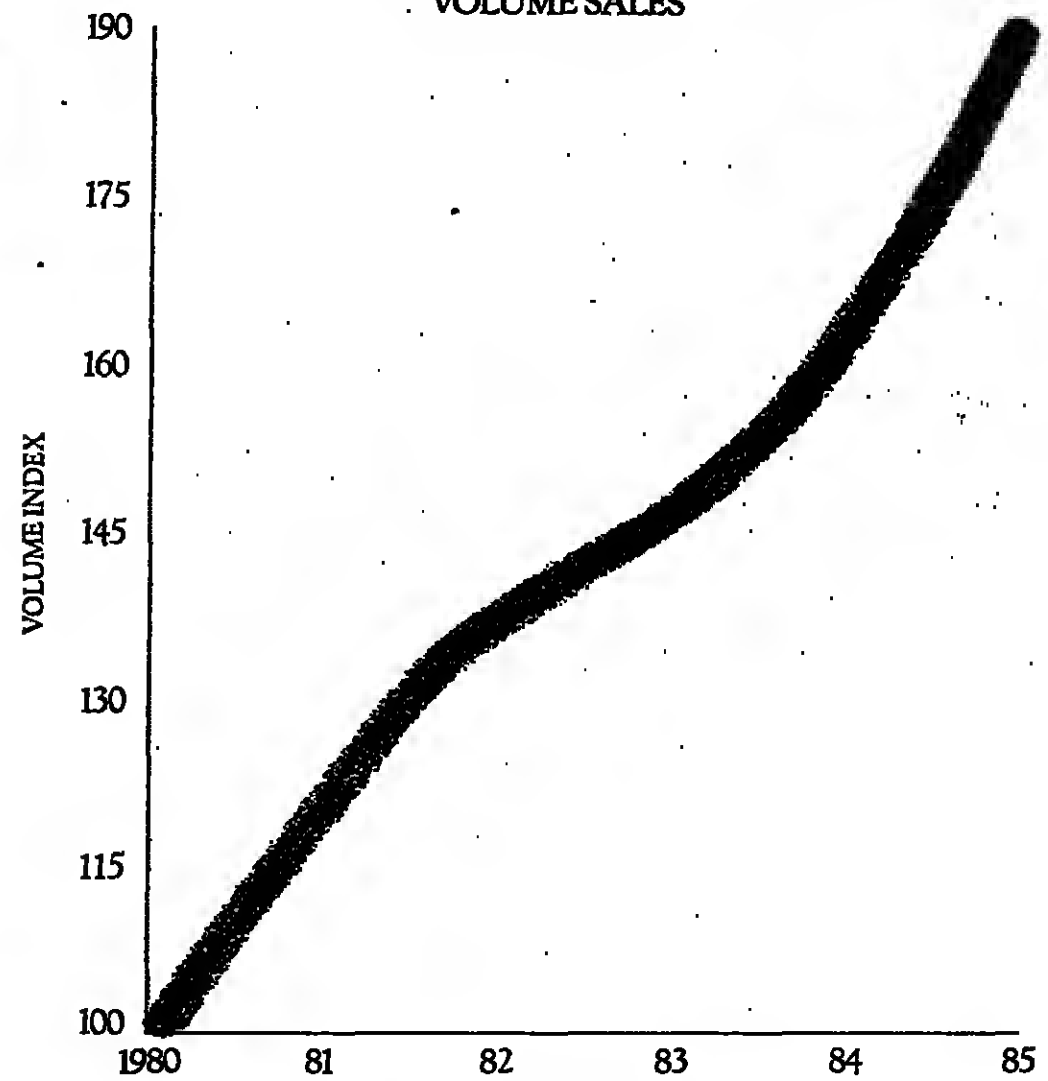
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Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page with text including 'old id', 'at ke', 'prom', 'CONGR', 'TO AGR', 'OF LEA', '...FROM', 'SEAT OF', '...FROM', 'SEAT OF'.

Handwritten text at the bottom center: 'سكوا من الاصل'

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT ON SUSSEX UNIVERSITY/1

February 7, 1986

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Bold idea that kept its promise

As the first of the new universities in the 1960s, Sussex quickly developed a reputation for innovation and glamour. It attracted brains and smartness, as well as the daughters of famous politicians, and it set out, as Asa (now Lord) Briggs, the historian and second vice-chancellor, put it, to "review the map of learning."

Whether it quite did that is debatable, but 25 years ago it hoped to effect a revolution in the relations between academic subjects. The theory was that knowledge cannot be divided into neat subject compartments. Schools of study were established rather than departments, and students studied a subject in depth but in different contexts.

Much of that theory remains, particularly in the arts and social sciences, and students still enrol for predominantly multi-disciplinary courses.

Peter Wilby, a Sussex alumni and education correspondent of The Sunday Times, says: "No university in history ever launched itself upon the world so boldly, so bravely, so self-confidently as Sussex. It was higher education's contribution to England's little Renaissance of the 1960s, a token that academics could swing along with the Beatles and Mary Quant."

Has Sussex lived up to its early promise? The answer is a qualified yes. The university is no longer particularly fashionable, and colour magazines no longer run articles about students wandering around Brighton's wharf stalls reading Kafka and talking about existentialism.

Indeed, in the present climate of opinion, which emphasizes the importance of instrumentalism in education and cuts in the arts, the university tends to stress its strength in science, particularly in research where its record is outstanding.

Sir Denys Wilkinson, the vice-chancellor, who retires at the end of the year, says:

"Whenever you set up a university you hope it will be respectable in research, but this place has been staggeringly successful."

It has 4,500 students and 1,700 staff, and is consistently among the top three or four universities to attract research funds. In the latest listing of Science and Engineering Research Council funding, it was, in terms of absolute cash, third only to Oxford and Cambridge, even though, as Sir Denys explains, Sussex is classed as "small and arts-based". The university received more of this SERC money than the bottom 12 universities combined.

It has had 17 Fellows of the Royal Society, six times the national average of FRS - half of all universities have no FRS. It had had more fellows of the British Academy than all the other new universities put together, and two Nobel prize winners.

The reason for this eminence must be that Sussex was able to attract first-class talent when it was founded in October, 1961.

able to attract first class talent

The university attracted such luminaries as Lord Briggs, Lord Fulton, the first vice-chancellor and advocate of Civil Service reform, and David Daiches, who came from Cambridge and was dean of the school of English studies. They were given carte blanche to create the liberal arts college of their dreams.

Numerically Sussex is still more orientated towards arts than science, with arts students outnumbering scientists by about two to one. But Sir Denys, a distinguished nuclear physicist appointed in 1976 in succession to Lord Briggs, says the university has for many years had a policy of strengthening science.

"We don't want to run down the arts until we can



Academic arbiters: Lord Briggs, standing, and Sir Denys Wilkinson

bring in appropriately qualified science students," he says.

Sir Denys justified the shift in the sciences away from the original Sussex model of schools of study with subjects being taught in other contexts as appropriate. Though they are still within schools of study, the sciences operate like traditional university departments.

An exception, according to Dr Geoffrey Lockwood, Sussex's registrar who has been with the university since its beginning, is the school of biological sciences, which is not divided into separate departments such as zoology, botany, but integrates the study of living organisms and evolution. Another exception is engineering.

Dr Lockwood denies the Sussex principle has been eroded. The original concept of schools of study and "contextuals" was dynamic, so one would expect it to have changed.

He says: "The economic and social situations have changed quite a lot so the university was bound to

change its teaching and research in line with the demands of students, applicants and society at large and taking into account the money you have available.

"When one looks at the differences between this university and the rest, the remarkable thing in many ways has been that so little has occurred. We still have schools of studies based on contextuals and interdisciplinarity. We still have small-group teaching, our research still largely springs from a mixing of different disciplines together. Though applications dropped sharply in the 1970s, from 13,632 in 1968 to 8,114 in 1975, they are climbing again. The tutorial system is modelled on Oxbridge, which means that students are taught in small groups. Sussex avoids the mass of final examinations and has, instead, instituted a varied examining system, based on extended essays and dissertations. Another attraction is its beautiful campus set in the downs with buildings in good condition and designed

to a human scale. The buildings are, however, divided sharply into arts and science, with the former benefitting from more graceful architecture and scenery.

The university has a good library and laboratories, but students complain the campus is too quiet at weekends. The student union says it contains "too many trends from London suburbs" but also the "most beautiful female students in the UK". It adds that Sussex is an exciting place for a student but that it can be hard on those who are not socially self-confident.

Mr Wilby says Sussex was like this when he was there in the early 1960s. He adds: "I am surprised that over 20 years the ethos of the place has changed so little."

Tough challenge over huge funding cuts

When Sir Denys Wilkinson retires this year as the university's vice-chancellor, he will have been 10 years in the top job. He arrived in Sussex in 1976 when chill winds were beginning to blow through the academic cloisters. He was chosen presumably because he was a distinguished scientist and would help to switch Sussex in the direction of science.

Lord Briggs, the historian, had also spent 10 years as vice-chancellor. When he left, he said: "The intellectual excitement of the early days can still be recaptured, but only rarely. In 1960 there was hope, now there is fear."

The big change came with the new Conservative government in 1979, as it did for all universities, specifically with the decision to charge so-called full cost fees for overseas students. This meant Sussex's funding was reduced by 16 per cent in direct relation to its percentage of overseas students.

But the Government assured the universities that they would receive level funding, that is that the real value of their funding would be maintained. It was not and it is not.

In 1981 came the famous university cuts whereby the University Grants Committee decided how much less each university would get in future. Sussex's cut was about average.

The university was faced with an effective reduction in income in real terms of 21.5 per cent between 1980-81 and 1983-84. Again the university system was promised level funding once these cuts had been made.

Sussex planned its academic profile carefully in late 1981 and early 1982, matching its activities to the number of staff needed. By the end of September 1982 it had lost 30 of the 63 jobs needed by means of voluntary redundancy.

"At the moment we have not yet reduced our academic faculty numbers to the

amount we would have liked in order to break even, and the reason is that we thought we would be on level funding," Sir Denys said.

The university system is now faced with a cut of about 2 per cent a year. Some universities will be cut more than that, some less, depending on how they are assessed in the "selectivity" exercise being undertaken by the UGC. Under this, universities that are strong in research will be awarded more money, and those which are weak less.

Sussex is expected to do well out of this because of its strength in research. "We know we shall do quite well, because part of the UGC's research funding formula will be to give universities 40 per cent of what they get from the research councils," Sir Denys said.

Mode of teaching may have to change

Moreover, Sir Peter Swinerton-Dyer, chairman of the UGC, has said that universities which are favoured in this exercise may be on level funding by the end of the decade. Sussex must be hoping it is in this category, though level funding for some will, of course, mean less for others.

Sir Denys said the potential at Sussex is great, and that only with level funding can it be realized, both in terms of teaching research. Teaching consumes 70 per cent of the university's resources. Sussex has always put great emphasis on the Oxbridge model of small group teaching, but this is being eroded slowly.

Where once the staff/student ratio was 10 to one, it is now 12 to one, and moving in the direction of 13 or 14 to one. "If that number increases, a fortiori students cannot get the degree of individual attention they used to get. We may have to move away from small group

teaching," Sir Denys said. The staff/student ratio could worsen enough for the university to have to rethink its method of teaching. That, Sir Denys said, could mean moving over to lectures as the sole method of teaching. "We have to recognize that beyond a certain point the mode of teaching may have to change. That is something that universities have not yet had to grapple with."

One aspect of its affairs that Sussex does not have to worry too much about is its own internal organization. The way in which universities manage themselves was criticized strongly in the Jarrett committee report earlier this year, but, according to Dr Geoffrey Lockwood, Sussex's registrar and secretary, who sat on the Jarrett committee, the university was already halfway along the road of implementing reforms in management.

Since the report was published, Sussex has moved about three-quarters of the way along the Jarrett road. It has always possessed some of the characteristics recommended by Jarrett, notably a planning committee which combined buildings, finance, social and academic affairs, and linked senate and the council.

In its estates management it does everything recommended by Jarrett and in financial management it has almost achieved the Jarrett ideal. It had always had budgetary devolution so that each academic unit controls its own budget.

Politically, as was the case in all the universities, there was a hostile reaction to the Jarrett report. People who regard themselves as professionals do not like being told what to do by industrialists when industry is seen to be failing.

"All university members had that feeling," Dr Lockwood said. "But in terms of the practicalities, the report was dealt with pragmatically."

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The institute with a heart

The Science Policy Research Unit is held in high esteem by the Government and other organizations in Britain, and throughout the world. Established in 1966 as the brainchild of Asa Briggs, its aim is to undertake research that will help to advance public knowledge about the relation between scientific and technological development and economic, social and political processes, and the implications for public policy.

It is a research unit for science and technology policy. Its director is Professor Geoffrey Oldham and it is renowned for its work on the development of fifth-generation computers. It is monitoring the progress of the Alvey programme.

The unit's work is focussed mainly on solving problems. Natural and social scientists work together on most projects. The unit has three main themes: it tries to understand the nature of scientific discovery and technological development, and how to secure innovation; the problems of efficient management and the evaluation of research and development and innovation; and the economic environment and the social consequences of technical change and its implications for policy.

Though the unit's primary objective is to carry out research, it also has an obligation to teach students. In 1983 it became responsible for organizing and teaching its own postgraduate programme - a master's degree in science, technology and industrialization.

It takes other research students - specifically 40 full-time students doing

MSCs and DPhils - and does some undergraduate teaching in a variety of schools of study. But, like the Institute for Development Studies, it does not run its own undergraduate degree.

One of its main activities springs from its designation as a research centre funded by the Economic and Social Research Council to look at science, technology and energy policy in British economic development.

The unit has done a major piece of work for the Cabinet Office under Ben Martin and John Irvine on how one can predict in some areas of science what developments are likely to be more successful than others.

Ian Miles is researching the impact of technical change on the division of

Awarded funds of more than £1 million in eight years

labour and on work and leisure and Julian Robinson is working on military technology and arms limitation. There are about 10 acres of research at the unit: seven people are engaged on the arms-control work. Their aim is to discover what causes states to arm themselves as they do.

The arms-control academics have received their money from the Ford and McCarthy foundations and the Quaker trusts in Britain. The unit also operates its own Armament and Disarmament Information Unit to provide information on almost any aspect of defence control or weapons.

Another important research outfit at the university which, like the Institute

for Development Studies, is entirely independent, is the Institute of Manpower Studies, since 1970 conducting research and advisory work on manpower and labour market problems.

With a staff of 50 and a turnover of £1.2 million, the institute works for the Government, the research councils, other agencies and industry. Its chairman is Sir Peter Walters, chairman of BP.

Much of its research is into graduate employment, particularly in information technology, and the unit is looking at the problem of levels of graduate mobility. It is examining the availability of graduates and whether there will be enough of them for different kinds of future jobs.

Another area of the Institute of Manpower Studies' work is helping individual employers to look at the careers of their staff, known in the jargon as "staff development." It is helping firms to examine how an individual's career can progress without a new job having to be created.

Firms have the problem of how to bring new generations through the company with fewer promotion prospects than previously.

The institute helps individual employers who want to relocate offices and it has been working recently on the shortage of courses. There are a lot of courses working in the community but some areas find it difficult to recruit them.

The unit has looked at the extent to which temporary work is a growing feature.



In the science park: Aisin Seiki, a research arm of Toyota, specializes in energy conservation

In the business of research

The university's success in research is based to a large extent on its close collaboration with big companies, foreign and domestic. Its nascent science park offers help with research and development to all companies, whatever their size, and especially to industrial firms locally.

Sussex has also compiled a Services for Industry programme that includes consultancy services, access to test equipment and workshop and computing facilities, and staff training.

The university is also going into business. It has formed a company called Cognition with the aim of commercializing the university's software ideas. Its function is to produce software products for the marketplace from developments by Sussex academics.

Poplog, the new computer software system, is one example. By adding graphics to it, says John Golds, of Services

to industry, it could be used in a financial environment, such as banks and finance houses.

The science park has one completed building occupied by Aisin Seiki, a research arm of the Toyota group which specializes in energy conservation.

The university is concerned that such companies should be part of the academic community and does not want to set up a speculative science park where there is no guarantee of collaboration.

So right next door to the Aisin Seiki building is the thermo-fluid mechanics research centre, that concentrates on research in heat transfer and fluid mechanics and, in particular, with the

cooling of advanced gas turbine engines, such as the RE211 engines of Rolls-Royce. The aim is to make engines more efficient and to keep fuel costs down. Two Sussex engineers, Professor Fred Bayley and Dr Mike Owen, were awarded first prize last year by the British Technology Group in the Academic Enterprise competition for their work in this area.

A second company, Eurotherm International, is building a second building for itself in the science park in order to base the whole of its research there.

The university benefits from this kind of development, says Mr Golds, in various ways.

Sussex has so far worked with more than 100 companies. Dow Corning, for example, the multinational chemical ceramics company, collaborated with the university's chemists on a new form of glass.

Most of this research is sponsored by the Science and Engineering Research Council, Rolls-Royce and GEC-Ruston Gas Turbines. The Sussex researchers hope to combine with the Japanese to develop a small self-contained gas turbine unit for combined heat and power applications.

This is potentially an important development. Until now combined heat and power applications have been done on a large scale, but smaller units would be extremely useful for, say, hospitals, because such self-contained systems use only 80 per cent of the fuel needed in conventional systems.

Most of the work in the centre is concerned with the

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High climbers on the technology tree

Sussex is proud of its reputation in information technology and, in particular, in artificial intelligence where it is ranked among the top three or four universities in Britain. It has established an Institute of Cognitive and Information Services and has a chair of computing science.

Computing is particularly diversified at Sussex and the computing centre enables all schools of study to use computers.

Staff at the centre have developed a microchip that can be plugged into a BBC micro, thereby enabling it to be used as a terminal to the mainframe computing centre. This exciting development which has been bought by a

number of education and industrial organizations. Marketed by Acorn Soft, it is called the Sussex Terminal and brings in valuable earnings for the centre. The brains behind it are Ken Blanchard, Brian Williams and Simoo Barnes, who work at the centre.

The main centres of computing activity in the university are in the cognitive studies programme, a mixture of artificial intelligence, psychology and linguistics, and in the school of engineering and applied science. The school of biological science is also active, but to a lesser extent.

Engineers are inevitably engaged in computing, but at Sussex they are involved in designing what are called large-scale integration chips. Dr Fred Halshall and Professor Dick Grimsdale are working on distributed systems, designing computing systems so that big problems can be shared by several processors.

Both men are associated with research into broadband networks: sending information between computers by a broadcasting system. Professors Grimsdale works on image processing and image generation. The aim of the latter is to produce much more realistic visual displays for flight simulators.

The university has considerable support under the Alvey programme for its work in computers and the number of grants it has been

awarded places it fourth among all universities and colleges. Dr Jim Hunter, supported by Alvey money, is designing expert medical diagnosis systems. This involves writing programs based on artificial intelligence techniques to diagnose cardiac ailments.

Work on artificial intelligence began with people trying to gain a better understanding of human capacities by seeing whether they could write programs that would simulate these capacities.

At Sussex, Professor Maggie Bowden has written a lot about the interaction between artificial intelligence

things has become the stock in trade of artificial intelligence. An example of this at Sussex is the computer-aided expert medical diagnosis system, Poplog, very special in that it offers users three different powerful languages.

Professor Alanair Chalmers, professor of psychology and academic director of the computing centre, described it as a flexible system which can be used to teach first-year humanities students.

The collaborative work with linguistics involves studying language. The aim is to try to define formal grammars, sets of rules which can be held to underlie everyday language.

It is only two decades since psychologists thought they would be able to account for language in the same way as we account for other skills. They believed language would be amenable to some kind of explanation.

But language is learnt bit by bit. It is a generative process and linguists have developed what are known as generative grammars and sets of rules. Computer language has become more complicated and software engineers rely on linguists to help them to refine and define computer languages.

Sussex has the world leader in this field, Professor Gerald Gazdar, who has formulated "phrase structure grammars". These are more general and are accepted in place of transformational grammar propounded by Chomsky.

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A study in the art of inquiry

Arts and social studies are one of the most exciting areas at Sussex with the work organized into five schools of study which are taught in a contextual framework. As Professor Margaret McGowan, pro-vice-chancellor (arts and social studies), explains, the idea is that a student "majors" in, say, economics or history and studies it in depth but in different contexts. This means that history can be studied in either the school of European studies, the school of African and Asian studies, in English and American studies, in social sciences or in the school of cultural and community studies. The aim is that one subject will inform another and connections made that would be less likely in a conventional university arts course. Economics studied in the school of European studies would be examined in the context of a European social, political and cultural background.

That makes the subject very different, not least because students spend a year on the continent studying economics in French with French compatriots. Economics is a different subject in France.

This approach to study has, however, been criticized by more conventional academics, and others who have experienced the Sussex model. Peter Wilby, the Sunday Times's education correspondent, studied his-

Intellectual history is one specialism

tory at the university in its heyday in the early 1960s. He said a bare majority of his study was on history and that the rest of his time was spent studying literature, sociology and philosophy. "I covered the 17th and 18th centuries but never found out what happened in the 18th century," he said. During the past 25 years there have been changes in the course work to accommodate this kind of complaint. Some courses have, however, survived from the beginning. One, "The Modern European Mind", was strongly criticized on the grounds that it was brought over in a suitcase from the US.

It is popular with both academics and students. Some of the lecture series for the course have finished up as books. Examples are *Humanity and Warfare*, by Geoffrey Best and *Tolstoy's View of Art*, by Terry Duffley. Professor McGowan explained that the arts and social sciences have tried to



Prof Margaret McGowan and Prof John Murrell: Greater school structure than in a traditional university

combine a prominent figure or activity with the intellectual and political context in which he, she or it existed. Another course that has survived since the early 1960s is the study of history or literature with philosophy. At Sussex the study of humanities gives an important place to intellectual history. This is not the simple transmission of an idea from one period to another, but the way in which people have thought of themselves as human, social and political beings.

The university has developed a particular specialism in intellectual history from the 19th century onwards. John Burrow is a world expert and Stephen Collini works in the same period.

In music Sussex combines high scholarship with creativity in Jonathan Harvey, a well-known composer and highly regarded scholar. The same applies to English where Gabriel Josipovici is a professor, but also the author of novels, poems.

Since the beginning the arts and social sciences have had a close relationship with the European studies school, and with the US because of its American studies.

The university is developing strong links with Africa and with the Far East - Hong Kong and Indonesia. It is developing a new integrated degree with the aim of attracting students from Indonesia who will spend a preparation year at a language school in Brighton.

A centre searching for a better world

The Institute of Development Studies, based at Sussex University, is Britain's first national centre for the study of Third World problems and was set up five years after the university was established. It investigates problems faced by the Third World such as rural development (irrigation, crop storage, seasonality), North-South relations (the Brandt report, commodity trade and transnationalism) and gender relations, education and health.

The institute has suffered considerably from the new political climate in the country. Its grant from the Overseas Development Administration of the Foreign Office was cut by the Government in 1979, and in future the money would

provide for only 12 research fellows and a director, it was told, instead of the previous 25 fellows and a director. The ODA funding, currently at £1 million, would have been £2 million but for the cut.

The institute reacted by attracting funds from other sources and saved all 25 posts. Another £1 million comes from work for organizations like the World Bank, the food and agricultural organization, Unesco, as well as from Sweden and Canada.

Each member of staff must raise one-half of his or her salary on a complicated work points system. Mike Farmer, the IDS's director, explains that there is a good deal of interaction with the university. Although the staff do not teach

undergraduates, they supervise 70 PhD students and teach two intakes a year of 30 MPhil students. The institute also operates a pattern of three 14-week courses a year for between 20 and 26 people a time. It also runs an annual seminar on food aid.

These short courses attract people from the Third World - administrators, researchers, teachers and other development workers who want to develop new skills, to update their knowledge and to exchange views with people from other countries.

John Oxenham, one of the research fellows, explains that the IDS's research has three focuses: the role of the state in aiding or obstructing development; the part played by the various state sectors - rural development, public

administration, health, education, and status and role of women; and finally, internal order.

Under the last heading are raised such issues as how the policies of rich, industrialized countries affect development and the fight to eradicate poverty. How, for example, do countries differ in how they are hit by international movements? How are developing countries affected by the policies of the International Monetary Fund? Are they adjusting at the expense of the poor?

The institute is aware that in Zambia, for example, infant mortality rates are beginning to rise again. "This is a frightful step backwards," said Mr Oxenham. The institute has a thread in disarmament and develop-

ment through the work of Robin Luckham who has researched Third World military institutions.

The IDS has been doing some interesting work on the "diploma disease", the notion that the relentless pursuit of paper qualifications is an end in itself and does not always lead to productive employment. The argument has important implications for developing countries because if schools are not producing young people with marketable skills development is held back.

Malcolm Segall and Emmanuel de Kadt are researching into the development of the idea of primary health care, mainly in Africa helping Third World countries formulate new approaches to public health.

The chemical and biological aspects of health are of primary concern to Sussex's school of biological sciences which ranks in the top four schools in Britain, with Edinburgh, Dundee and Oxford.

Biological sciences has attracted about £1.2 million for its work from the research councils, the Overseas Development Administration, the World Health Organization and the Wellcome Foundation. Wellcome has given the university a lectureship in biochemistry and the British Diabetic Association has donated a lectureship. And under the Government's new band scheme, the school has been given four new posts.

In 1985/86, biochemistry attracted £754,000 in grants of which 63 per cent was for medically-related research. Dr Irene Green, for example,

Cash for helping health

won a 10-year senior research fellowship from the British Diabetic Association for her research into the way in which insulin is secreted.

One of the largest grants of research money - £200,000 from the Overseas Development Administration - has gone to Dr Tim Flowers for his work on developing a salt-resistant strain of rice, vital because at present rice can only be grown in salt-free water which hampers its growth in tropical countries where salt is brought to the surface and pollutes irrigation water.

Dr Don Thomas, in his WHO-recognized laboratory, is looking at environmental control of the small which causes schistosomiasis or

bilharzia by manipulating the chemistry of the water in the tropics.

Jonathan Bacon is examining neural systems and Professor Mike Land, a fellow of the Royal Society, is looking at the optics of insects - a result is a new wide-field X-ray telescope, an example of how useful things can emerge from seemingly pointless research.

In chemistry, the university's strength lies in the interface between organic, inorganic and physical chemistry. It is probably the leading institution in Britain for organometallic chemistry.

Professor John Murrell, pro vice-chancellor (science), says there is a greater depth in Sussex's school

structure than in a traditional university. Sussex has a unique degree - chemistry by thesis - whereby you can get a first degree in chemistry by entering a research laboratory in the middle of your first year and spend most of your time doing practical chemistry through project work. Five students a year are able to do this.

Sussex is noted for the work it does in the interface between mathematics and chemistry, and is one of the few places where students can specialize in theoretical chemistry.

In physics the university does much on the structure of materials and electron microscopy. The most consistently excellent academic group is that which includes the five astronomers. They have close links with the Royal Observatory.

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Howe is suddenly left out in the cold at Flushing Meadow

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

The words "Robert Howe, Referee" will no longer appear among the list of officials at the United States championships. Howe, aged 60, has been sacked. According to a mutual acquaintance "Bob is a very disappointed man right now — and this business could have been handled better by the United States Tennis Association (USTA).

Howe was assistant referee for 12 years before taking over in 1983. He had begun to seem part of the furniture at Forest Hills and Flushing Meadow in turn and his sudden dismissal is startling. His prime cause is said to be staffing problems within the USTA because of restricted opportunities for promotion. Howe had an annual short-term engagement as referee of the championships. By contrast his successor will probably be a full-time USTA official.

Born in Sydney, Howe trained as a navigator in the Australian Air Force, studied physical education at Sydney University, and was a 28-year-old country school teacher when he was persuaded to try his luck on the tennis circuit in 1954.

In spite of his late start he

was to achieve the rare feat of competing at Wimbledon for 16 consecutive years, with particular distinction in mixed doubles (once champion, twice runner-up).

Howe was also one of the regular Australian participants in the annual players' cabarets at Monte Carlo, where his quasi-dramatic sketches with Virginia Wade had to compete with such drag acts as Fred Stolle (Shirley Temple), who mimed "The Good Ship Lollipop", and John Lewis (Marlene Dietrich), whose knees were distracted from the fact that he otherwise had good legs for the role. All that was part of the vanished joys of a circuit once dominated by Australians and off court.

Howe worked for two sportsware companies in Britain before moving to California. In recent years he has refereed a Davis Cup final and the Olympic Games demonstration event and has helped a Loudon-based entrepreneur, David Whitehead, to organize a world-wide series of events for former distinguished players aged 35 or more. Such promotions usually combine entertainment and instruction with the marketing programmes of a variety of commercial companies.

John Alexander and Roscoe Tanner will bring their powerful services to bear among this year's "International Thirty-Fives", as the series is known. Stops on the circuit will include Kilternan (a new tennis centre near Dublin), Paris, Moor Park (the golf club contains a thriving tennis club), the Netherlands, Monte Carlo or Bournemouth, Italy, Macao, Barbados, Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch, and a Middle-Eastern tour of Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar.

Ilie Nastase (Paris) and Tom Okker (Netherlands) are the best known local organizers and it is likely that the players in action will also include Mark Cox, Cliff Drysdale, Bob Hewitt, Jan Kodes, Frew McMillan, Manuel Orantes, Nikola Pietrangeli, Stan Smith, Adriano Panatta and Roger Taylor — that is, when such old eburns can spare the time from television commentary, serving as captains or coaches of Davis Cup players or running this or that aspect of a game in which all made yesterday's headlines.



Howe: yesterday's man at the Meadow

RUGBY UNION: CARRYING THE GAME TO A NORTHERN OUTPOST

Forward thinking on the back issue

By Gerald Davies

An old and familiar phrase, redolent of a former time, has been brought out of a darkened cupboard, dusted down and freshened up and is, fashionably, doing the rounds again in the best circles. "It's only 40 per cent possession the Welsh team need" is already tripping off many an extensible lip.

For once again half backs and the rest of the threequarter line are seen to carry themselves with a bit of swank and swagger again. It may appear to be very flimsy evidence — only two tries scored but eight penalties kicked — upon which to base such confidence, but there were other attacking runs which, though they brought no reward, encourage the belief that the Welsh backs can do a lot with very little.

This is a source of cheer in that the backs, after a year in the doldrums, are on their way to recovering their rightful place in the scheme of things. But it is a mixed blessing. It implies an acceptance that the Welsh forwards cannot achieve parity in the contest for possession. It may be that Welsh rugby, at national level at least, will have to live with this adversity for a while so as to lay to rest its over-emphasis on scrummaging and mauling.

It is 12 years since the 40 per cent phrase went out of fashion when the power of the British forwards ascended with the destruction of the South Africans in 1974. That South Africa never expected their forward pride to be so utterly beaten was a rude awakening to them, but to take them on successfully where they least expected it was a great tactical victory for the Lions of that year. The trouble is that many maintained in the clouds ever since, thinking that forward power alone is enough to win matches.

Now, with a Welsh pack as currently constituted unable to open itself, faith in the back division is born again. In considering the Welsh performance in the first two international matches, it can be argued that this has been forced upon them. The sparkle in the eyes of the youngsters and their cheeky, precocious confidence — Jonathan Davies even found time at one stage during a full

Wakefield adjusting well to a whole new ball game

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

For years when people have talked about rugby in Wakefield they have meant Rugby League and Wakefield Trinity. Trinity were one of the original clubs when in 1895, broke away from the Rugby Football Union to form the Northern Union and, over the passage of years, they have been a leading light of the Rugby League.

Over the last decade, however, Trinity's fortunes have declined and the name of Wakefield has become associated with an open style of Rugby Union, an attractive, possibly lightweight but nonetheless impassioned club. Rosslyn Park may disagree with the adjective lightweight ten years ago they scraped through to the final of the John Player Cup by beating Wakefield 12-6 in a tense encounter. Last month they bowed out of the cup in the third round, beaten by a 23-19 victory which looked Wakefield to a flurry of a fourth round tie tomorrow (weather permitting) against Nottingham.

None of their subsequent cup seasons lived up to the promise of that 1976 win which established Wakefield as a first-class club and lifted them out of Trinity's shadow. They offered new personalities to the national scene: Jeff Dowson, a fine back row forward and captain for club and county, Les Cusworth, who subsequently moved south to Moseley then to Leicester, whom he now

captains. "We had many moments over the first 70 years (Wakefield were founded in 1901) of winning the Yorkshire Cup", Robin Foster, the club chairman, said "but we weren't achieving regularly. We had to watch Wakefield-born players achieving elsewhere." Among them were Phil Taylor (Northampton and England), David Rollitt (Bristol and England) and, of course, Cusworth, capped ten times by England.

Peter Cook who played so well for the Midlands in the original championship this season, returns with Nottingham tomorrow to the club with whom he won Under 23 honours though, as a Lancashire lad, he was not part of the enormous nursery provided by the schools which surround Wakefield, of which Queen Elizabeth GS, Silcoates and Normanton Freeston are probably the best.

"It's almost Welsh, bringing up children here," Mr Foster said. "They all play with an oval ball and many of them, of course, go to Rugby League. I was asked, when we had lost seven players to league one season, what would happen to Wakefield. I told people the Rugby League would run short of brass before we ran short of players."

"We have been delighted in the last few years to see Bryan Barley and Mike Harrison win England caps. But it's the fact that they've



Pocklington have 14 wins from 17 matches, losing only to Woodhouse Grove (9-16)

stayed with Wakefield that has helped us tremendously." Barley will not be facing Nottingham: the centre who toured with England during the last two summers, is building up fitness after a long-standing leg injury.

But Harrison, who joined England in squad training at Twickenham last Sunday, will play on the wing as will Bennett another wing, who survives from that 1976 season. They, along with Heron, the prop and captain, and Townsend, at stand-off half are the old heads in a young, inexperienced side which will run every piece of possession on the basis that they may not see very much coming their way from the Nottingham forwards.

"Every copper we've had out of the cup has been ploughed back into the club," Mr Foster said — hence the new 500-seat stand and concrete terracing which can accommodate gatherings of over 4,000 at College Grove, which is part of a sports complex. Llanelli play their first visit here on March 8 which will be a case of Greek meeting Greek.

Wakefield are also conscious that northern pride has been dented somewhat rudely this season. They and Broughton Park are the only northern survivors in the cup. Earlier this week they received the good wishes of Orrell, who lost in a drawn game to the cup holders Bath in the last round. Wakefield will fly the flag well.

London beat last year's finalists to qualify for last four of cup

By David Hands

The London will make their first appearance in the semi-finals of the Hospitals Cup for three years when they pay St. Thomas on February 26. The other semi-final will be played a week earlier when St. Mary's, the holders, play Guy's in a repeat of one of last season's semi-finals.

The London disposed of Charing Cross-Westminster who were finalists last year, by 15-10 in their second round encounter, thanks largely to MacLean, their stand-off half, who kicked two penalties and three drop goals. London's forwards played a major part as did the St. Mary's pack in their convincing 33-3 win over St. Bartholomews.

The British Polytechnics won their second representative match of the season when they beat the University Colleges of

Calcutta Cup game. Six of the Loughborough players are back and all can expect a demanding game next Wednesday in the semi-finals of the UAU knock out competition when Loughborough play Birmingham at Rugby and Swansea beat Nottingham at Stroud.

TEAMS: Charing Cross-Westminster: G. Jones, S. Gifford, M. Hancock, J. Loughborough: J. Ward (Nottingham), J. Lambert (Nottingham), J. Cooper (Birmingham), G. Kora (Nottingham), J. Swan (Loughborough), A. MacDonald (Loughborough), J. Williams (Nottingham), T. Edrocks (Loughborough).

RESULTS: Hospitals Cup, Second Round: The London 15 Charing Cross-Westminster 10; UCU and Westminster 3, Dore 12, St. Thomas 15, Royal Free 0, St. Bartholomews 3, St. Mary's 33.

The 20th century Alan Rees is the 19th century Bristol Rugby Club, after spending four years with the John Player Cup champions. Rees was in the Bath side who beat Bristol in the John Player Cup final in 1984.

Power-packed season for King's

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

King's, Worcester, have completed a most successful season. Their final victory over Bristol GS (24-6), Malvern (44-0) and Belmont Abbey (28-0) gave them a final record of 16 wins and four defeats. None of those losses was by more than five points. Among the victories, none was more pleasing than their 17-12 derby success against RGS Worcester.

King's possess a powerful pack which contributed two players, George Blakeway, a scrum half, and David Eggle, right wing, to the Midlands side defeated by the Australian Schools. Also outstanding has been Simon Jevons, who scored three tries against Belmont Abbey. He has 22 tries to his credit this season.

Pocklington have 14 wins from 17 matches, losing only to Woodhouse Grove (9-16).

Wellbeck College (11-9) and St Peter's (16-8). Their final victory was against Mount St Mary's (30-3). Tim Hudson scored two fine tries, and their leading points scorer, Mike Hutchinson, took his tally for the season to 108.

In the last first-round match of the Bank of Scotland Scottish Schools Cup, Boroughmuir HS defeated Eastwood HS 32-6. One quarter-final has been played, Fenwick HS beating Stranraer Academy 8-0.

Ellesmere College, preparing for their second visit to Toronto in two years, have not enjoyed an outstanding season, but were delighted at the selection of the fast and powerful Owen for the senior Shropshire team that defeated South Warwickshire.

Support for my views over

BASKETBALL

TV misses out on a Kingston thriller

By Nicholas Harting

Portsmouth..... 114
Team Kingston..... 116

A basket, six seconds from time, by Steve Bontrager gave Team Polycell Kingston a crucial victory over one of their chief rivals for the Carlsberg national league championship on Wednesday night.

Kingston's victory makes them slight favourites to regain their title.

The BBC had declined to televise the game for their Sportsight programme, suggesting that it might not be exciting enough, but a capacity crowd at the Mountbatten Centre must have thought otherwise. Kingston sped into a 15-3 lead after three minutes only to be caught by a furious response from the home side that half-time led by 58-52.

The introduction of Joel Moore, who has been out since November after having glass splinters removed from an eye when he was involved in a car crash, was the Portsmouth revival, which looked certain to give them a worthy success. But with Dossie and the excellent Irish in foul trouble, Kingston gradually reduced the deficit until Bontrager, who had looked nothing like his normal prolific self in the first half — scoring only nine points — levelled the scores with 50 seconds left.

Bontrager then dismissed Dan Lloyd to set himself up for what proved to be the winning basket with six seconds remaining. There was still time for more drama, however, as Irish, who had been fouled by Bontrager, missed the first of his free shots which could have taken the game into overtime.

BOXING

Graham's victory brings him closer to Sibson

By Srikrumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

The confrontation between the arch-rivals Herol Graham, of Sheffield, and Tony Sibson, of Leicester, came near yesterday after Graham's emphatic 10th round victory over Ayub Kalule, of Denmark, in the European middleweight championship at the City Hall, Sheffield, on Wednesday night.

Brendan Ingle, Graham's trainer, said yesterday: "No problem about Sibson getting a fight with Graham. Barney IB. J. Eastwood, Graham's manager, said Sibson can have the fight any time as long as Barney puts it on. He will put up the money but it is up to Sibson to go after Graham's title."

It all depends now on whether Frank Warren, Sibson's exclusive promoter, will allow him to box on an "Eastwood show" when Eastwood has threatened to stop Graham's European challenge through a High Court injunction because of contractual problems. It is difficult to see a London promoter allowing Eastwood to take the profits from a show that would be a sell-out if Graham and Sibson were to meet.

Eastwood is in the happy position of not needing Sibson as much as Sibson needs Graham. For Eastwood believes it will not be long before Graham takes on Marvin Hagler, the world champion. If Hagler were somehow to be beaten in his next defence by John Mugabi of Uganda, Graham's world chance could come even sooner, for

Mugabi's manager, Mickey Duff, is a business associate of Eastwood's. Sibson could then find that pinning Graham down to accepting a challenge is even harder than nailing him in the ring.

Eastwood, who is also Barry McGuggan's manager, was impressed by the crowd at City Hall and wants to put the world title bout on at Sheffield football ground. After Graham's victory Eastwood said: "This was not a champion. I don't know who is."

Graham's inside-the-distance victory over Kalule was not unexpected, however. For the shorter Ugandan former world champion, was not only a shell of his old self but never fully able to catch the elusive Graham with both hands. It is, however, an indication about Graham. Even though Graham's European challenge through a High Court injunction because of contractual problems, it is difficult to see a London promoter allowing Eastwood to take the profits from a show that would be a sell-out if Graham and Sibson were to meet.

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Witherspoon drug test reveals marijuana

New York (AP) — A post-bout test found there were traces of marijuana in the system of Tony Witherspoon, who won the World Boxing Association heavyweight title in Atlanta last month, the promoter Don King said here. King said he had been notified of the test result by the Georgia Boxing Commission.

Witherspoon, who took the title from Tony Tubbs on points over 15 rounds decision on January 17, said that he had smoked marijuana only once, "during a party in Philadelphia around Thanksgiving" in November.

"That was way before the fight, way before training and everything," Witherspoon said. "It could not help me beat Tubbs, because you get sluggish when you smoke marijuana. It doesn't help you win."

Witherspoon, who was named Boxer of the Month on Tuesday by the WBA, asked the commission to forgive him, saying: "I let everyone down. I gave Don King my word that I was clean and that I didn't use it, but I lied. I hope they will forgive me. I will never do it again."

Witherspoon said he had smoked the marijuana with friends who were celebrating the fact that he was getting a chance at the title again. Witherspoon held the World Boxing Council title for less than six months in 1984, before losing a 12-round decision to Pinklon Thomas. "I was young-minded and foolish and went ahead and smoked this stuff, knowing that they were testing people," Witherspoon said. "But we were happy, and I did it anyway."

The Georgia Boxing Commission chairman said he was bound by law to make no public statement on the matter until after a hearing, which was scheduled for next Monday.

"We have already notified the World Boxing Association of the hearing, and what they do after that is up to them," Larry Franklin, the commission chairman, said in Atlanta. "As far as we are concerned, the result of the fight will stand. Under our rules, we cannot change a decision except for collusion, fraud or a mathematical error."



Sebastian Coe, David Hemery, Dan Topolski: is fear of defeat stronger than will to win?

David Miller hears about the importance of motivation

The mind does the running, the body pulls the strings

One of the values of sport is that, being of the most superficial level about winning and losing, it encourages a degree of self-analysis in the participant. Sport can help us to understand more about ourselves, and simultaneously or easily to communicate with others. Sport can contribute to a rounded life.

It is a recognition of this, reinforced by an interest in the current of some anxiety, that has persuaded Oxford University to initiate a series of lectures this term on the sporting scene, which this week saw Sebastian Coe, David Hemery, Dan Topolski and Dan Wiskell gathered in the Examination Schools to discuss "Motivation and Coaching", under the discerning eye of that historic motivator Kaiser Bill, whose portrait has stared down oppo generations of undergraduates.

Coe and Topolski particularly emphasized that, contrary to a widespread misconception, motivation comes from within the competitor rather than from the coach. Topolski, himself a successful university and international lightweight oarsman, as a coach has transformed Oxford's record in the Boat Race from a miserable 12 victories in 70 years to 10 successive victories. Coe, who chose Loughborough University because of its parallel traditions in economics and sport, gave admissions tutors a lead towards the true values by his clear words and sport with his clear words.

With that other intellectual record breaker, the neurologist Sir Roger Bannister, among the audience, Coe said: "The coach, whose job it is to train both mind and body to simultaneous excellence, must understand the results with objectivity, rather than the athlete himself. In the end, however, the true experience and the self-knowledge that goes with it belongs to the

runner and to him alone. This still leaves us with one unanswered crucial question. Was it ultimately the mind that made success possible, or was it the body that allowed the mind to be successful?"

Many academics at both Oxford and Cambridge are alarmed by the trend of the past 30 years — a celebrated by the WBA, asked the commission to forgive him, saying: "I let everyone down. I gave Don King my word that I was clean and that I didn't use it, but I lied. I hope they will forgive me. I will never do it again."

When Hemery suggested a day off, the coach merely said: "The road to Mexico is out there; and to driving wind and rain, and to an hour taking Hemery's split times. He achieved, in that hour, the absolute confidence of the athlete in the coach."

Yet for Hemery and Coe, and for any other gold medal winner, all the qualities of technique and fitness which can be taught, are worthless, as Topolski said, without fire in the belly, "the wild card, which cannot be created."

It was Coe who came closest to an abstract analysis of motivation and the extent to which there should be an attempt to see it as a reaction to measurable objectives rather than as a jargonistic catch phrase:

● Sports psychology makes many assumptions. For the elite athlete and coach, whose application of science is likely to be physiology or biomechanics, it is not so difficult.

● Sports psychologists should concern themselves not with looking at the force of motivation but showing the strength of the drive created by the motive.

● The weakness of popular theories of motivation is that a serious attempt has been made to bring out from the shadows an athlete's training and place it on an equal footing with performance.

● Motivation centres on the fine line between success and failure, but any reasonable coach knows that if the performance is measured solely in terms of winning or losing, this little can be learned from it.

Women's AAA pull off royal coup - with an Olympic Games omen

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

enjoys with the Palace. But the fact that these championships, sponsored by the Trustee Savings Bank, are at Alexander Stadium in Birmingham will not be lost on the locals. For Princess Anne is president of the British Olympic Association, whose Birmingham bid for the 1992 Olympic Games is gathering strength daily.

It will also mean that the athletics authorities are fully back in favour in official circles. After the 1980 Olympic Games, the hesitation over honours to British gold medal winners, and the absence of royalty from the AAA Centenary Championships hinted at a radical change in the decision to go to Moscow after the Government had called for a boycott.

The security at Alexander Stadium will evidently have to be far more even than last year, when Miss Budd's presence caused all but the home straight stand to be closed in order to avoid demonstrations against the former South African athlete. Unless injured, Miss Budd's participation is also assured, since, as Miss Hartman stolidly stated yesterday: "Any athlete wishing to compete in the Commonwealth Games has to compete in our championships."

TSB are increasing their sponsorship package this year by about 15 per cent to £35,000, and are delighted with the Princess's decision to attend. The extra money in the package will go towards paying expenses for all athletes - seniors, juniors and intermediates.

The WAAA allocation for the Commonwealth Games has also been increased this year to 50. This is in view of the continuing success of the sport at international level.

Budd: participation assured

SWIMMING

Threadbare look for Britain

By Athole Still

There are no late changes in the 22 British swimmers ten from England's Yorkshire Bank sport and 12 Scots, who will participate in the three-day Arena Festival, which opens in Bonn this evening. They will find the small but competitive field notably higher than in the three recent meetings in Amersfoort, Paris and Strasbourg, with 32 countries represented here and five Olympic and ten European champions already warming-up to the Frankfurt short-course competition.

Adrian Moorhouse, City of Leeds, the European Breaststroke champion, is the only Briton to have won a gold at any of the international meetings this year and unfortunately he will not compete this weekend, which leaves the British contingent with a fairly threadbare look. Nevertheless, Mark Foster, Millfield, the new young freestyle sprint star has already shown outstanding form in 1986 and is looking for further improvement, and the experienced Stephen Poulter, Wigan Wasps, can be counted on to figure prominently in the long medley and butterfly events.

The Scots are expected to continue their impressive overall improvement although their efforts are targeted on unashamedly at the Commonwealth Games in July. "Last year we came to Bonn for experience," says national coach Hamilton Smith, "and this year we go for performance. The final phase is achievement and that is what we hope for this summer."

The legendary Russian, Vladimir Salnikov, continues his comeback trail after a year-long lay-off due to illness and he will be joined by Gidon Gross in one or other of the longer freestyle events. The 25 metre course will probably favour the West German enough to give him the edge. However, the highlight of the weekend could well be the mixed backstroke event where American Rick Carey, the double Olympic champion, meets world record breaker Igor Polanski of the Soviet Union and Dirk Richter of East Germany.

LACROSSE

Promotion a priority

By Peter Tadlow

The All England Women's Lacrosse Association's need over the past few years for increased promotion of their game has become a top priority since the Sports Council doubled their grant last November. First step in the endeavour came this week with the appointment of Janet O'Neill as the All England Development Officer. Mrs O'Neill leaves her job as a City Reinsurance Claims officer this month to go out into the territories of women's lacrosse to develop interest and awareness of the exciting and fast moving game which has been played in Britain for over 100 years. It is a unique game played with a solid rubber ball propelled at great velocity through the air from a net secured to the top of a hickory (or plastic) stick.

Schools are the nurseries for lacrosse but there has been some decline of enthusiasm in recent years. The interest is to be rekindled to build up the sport from its present sound base.

President of the All England Association Maureen Watson said: "We have up to 20,000 student participants and we want the majority of them to continue in the sport in clubs, counties and territories."

It is a difficult game to promote in areas such as Humberside, Devon and Cornwall, North East and North West and parts of Kent where there is little or no interest.

The successful experiment tried in Australia with Soft Crose might well be one of the answers. It is a game with a minimum of rules that can be played in confined spaces with just a few players.

GOLF

Faldo looks for a way back to top

From John Ballantine, La Jolla

American courses span a spectacular spectrum from the green splendours of Pinehurst and Augusta National Golf Club to the sea-girt glories of Cypress Point and Waialae, but it is in the USA where the public courses in the USA give pleasure to club player and professional alike than the north and south links of Torrey Pines where the San Diego Open began yesterday.

Bernard Langer and Ken Brown who have both made exceptional starts to their 1986 campaigns, and Nick Faldo, who is working hard to overcome his difficulties with a swing which produced horrible scores of 79 and 78 at Pebble Beach last week, join battle with the likes of Tom Watson and Ben Crenshaw on this cliff-top golfing wonderland which also has aspects of "sea world".

"For this is the time of year when the 30ft long grey Californian whales migrate from the north down to the warm blue waters of Baja California to breed and their spumes often speckle the pew-

ter sheen of the Pacific Ocean lying beneath the 800ft high cliffs.

It is a sight which makes many professionals lay down their clubs and press men their pens while the shop windows here are full of children's pastel drawings proclaiming "SAVE OUR WHALES".

In Faldo's case it is more a matter of Save our Swings, for he is deep in the doldrums as a result of changes made during recent lessons from the Florida coach David Leadbetter. This "guru's" ideas lie in the regions of flatter arms and a quicker cocking of wrists, and the backswing which in Faldo's case make him appear to be snatching away the club head; not unsonorous ideas certainly but ones not suitable for every player and clearly giving Faldo some difficulties.

Why does he not go back to the swing that won him so many titles? you might reasonably ask, but it is not easy to reverse course even if you can remember exactly what you did before.

BADMINTON

Hall and Butler put game in the picture

By A Special Correspondent

The final of the Carlsberg English national championship ships - to which Darren Hall and Steve Butler - was such a good vehicle for yesterday's Channel 4 television coverage that the entrepreneurs immediately announced further plans.

Walker International, the promotions and management company which has signed Hall and Butler as well as 10 other leading British players this season, promising to boost incomes and television exposure, have now signed two more.

They are Andy Goode and Gillian Gowers, two of England's leading doubles players. Both should shortly enjoy a rise in earnings as doubles events have been added to the world grand prix circuit.

Goode beat Butler in the national final two years ago, while Gowers surprised many people by reaching the final of the British Airways Masters in October. To the process she beat the European champion, Helen Troke, who on Wednesday night won her first national title by outplaying the title holder, Fiona Elliott, for the last of only six points.

Hall's record is 15-5, 9-15, 18-17, over Butler an hour or so before should have convinced people, if anything is ever going to, that this sport can make enjoyable television. It was the first time in this country that the ingredients of an unpredictable and an English winner had been packaged together.

It was the longest ever men's final - an hour and a half. Hall, who wears a car and some times a vague look, and is known to waste opportunities brilliantly created, once again suggested he is perhaps the country's most able player. He also became the youngest men's national champion in what was almost certainly the most exciting final ever.

We must wait to find out how the punters view it. Representatives of Walker International seem in little doubt. They expect to announce yet more signings and other developments. These will no doubt have the Badminton Association of England, which is transforming the national championships, casting its eyes anxiously about, hoping that conflict is not waiting to ambush it.

The future for Hall, aged 20, and Butler, 22, looks bright. They are popular with the company that manages them not only because of their play, which has put them on a par with England's top-ranked players, Steve Batters and Nick Yates, but because they have personality. Expect to hear more of them.

VOLLEYBALL

Unbeaten Spark are out on their own

By Paul Harrison

With the demise of Hillingdon Ladies as a competitive force, Spark have established themselves as the new force in the Royal Bank women's league in England. Their current dominance of the scene was emphasized at the weekend when they defeated Ashcombe, their nearest rivals.

Spark are undefeated in the league and have also reached the quarter-finals of the Royal Bank Cup. How much their renaissance owes to Hillingdon's absence from the English scene will now never be known.

"We are very disappointed that Hillingdon are not there this season," Martin Bart, the Spark coach, said. "It would have been a very good thing for English volleyball if they had been there, and it would have been very interesting for us to see who was the stronger."

It is likely that Hillingdon will not grace English volleyball again. Plans to play in European tournaments have not worked out for the club, mainly due to the crowded season on the Conti-

nent. What was the most potent force in the game, with a string of league and cup titles behind them, now merely coaches one day a week at a youth club in north London. Ann Jarvis, England's most capped player, now plays for Ashcombe and Cooper, the Scottish international center, makes forays north of the border to play for Team Scottish Farm.

Chris Hazel, once the most feared of attackers, has retired in disillusion, from competitive play. It is a sad end for a team which once held English volleyball in the palm of its hand.

The mantle has fallen on Spark, with three current England internationals in Yvonne Kelly, Mandy Brine and Sandy Lister. Central to their emergency has been the return to regular play of Sylvia Cooper, former international setter who used to play for Hillingdon.

She gave up the game to start a family but has now become a vital part of Spark's success. "She has made all the difference to us," Bart says.

Lambourn's winning family double

The immaculate appearance of Rhonehurst and its adjacent stables proclaim to the outside world that Oliver Sherwood means business. The well kept drive is flanked by freshly painted white railings as you drive past the newly built boxes and pull up by the tall red-brick house.

Upper Lambourn is the golden valley of sheeprearing. Fulke Walwyn and Fred Winter are but two of the new trainer's neighbours, and a little further up the road to Ashbury lies the home of Jenny Siman, the hand of Burrough Hill Ltd, Mandarlin, Mill House, The Dikler and Midnight Court are other Cheltenham Gold Cup winners to have had their final gallop on the downs above the village.

Brisk, alert and courteous, Oliver, the 30-year-old son of Nat Sherwood, a prosperous Essex farmer, has spent 12 years grooming himself for his trade. His right-hand man is his brother, Simon, champion amateur rider in the past two seasons and now duelling with Peter Scudamore and Steve Smith-Eccles in the race for the professional jockeys' title.

They make a formidable combination. Oliver himself rode 90 winners during his 10 years with Arthur Moore and Winter. "I suppose the highlights were winning the Sun Alliance Venture To Cognac. And I also landed the treble of the Cheltenham and Liverpool Foxhunters and the Horse and Hound Cup at Stratford on Avon Ralls Rambler." Like his brother, Sherwood senior was also champion amateur in the 1978-79 season.

The story of Venture To Cognac's racing career has run parallel with that of the trainer. "I bought him over from Ireland when I joined Fred. Luckily we'd been beaten a head in a novice hurdle over there, or he wouldn't have qualified for the Sun Alliance." Sherwood said. Now 13-years-old, this high-class animal has never quite fulfilled his early potential, due to a variety of training problems. But two seasons ago he beat Spartan Missile easily in the Cheltenham Foxhunters and is now back in training for another



Oppidan (right), seen here challenging Midnight Court, is earmarked for Cheltenham's festival meeting

programme of hunter-chases. Both brothers went to school at Radley. Oliver is perhaps the more fanatical sportsman of the pair. "I've got to be really sick," he went on, "as I only got one O level. But seriously I was too busy with my sport. I was in the rugger 15 for three years and was also mad on cricket, rackets and athletics." At one point he even considered a career in soccer, but the idea was knocked on the head by Michael Gluckstein, the chairman of Charlton Athletic who told him that "the chance of a public schoolboy making a living in league football is about 100-1."

After leaving school he spent a year in Australia, six months with his father, who at that time was training a few horses under permit on a farm he had bought near Banbury and then about the same time with Gavin Pritchard-Gordon at Newmarket. "Gavin's wife, Coral, then recommended me to Arthur Moore. I spent four years over there and had the greatest fun. I was a sort of glorified head lad, box driver and everything. We're still the greatest friends. Arthur is godfather to my 18-month-old daughter and also my

chief contact. He found The Breener for me," the trainer said.

The brother's parents had still young "Mother moved to Warwickshire and became friendly with John and Wendy Thorne so when I heard that Nicky Henderson was going to marry their daughter, Diana, and set up on his own, I started to ponder him to recommend me as his replacement as assistant to Fred. I went there quaking with fright, but luckily we hit it off from the word go. It was the year Midnight Court won the Gold Cup."

About his six years with the eight times champion trainer Sherwood says simply: "I owe everything to Fred. And also to Arthur and my father."

And what better schoolmaster could a prospective trainer have had than the gruff and kindly Winter, whose bark is so much worse than his bite.

"The decision to set up on his own was taken early in 1984, three years after he had married Winter's daughter, Denise. Fred just looked at me one day and said, 'Isn't it about time you started training?' The idea both excited and frightened me but I realised he was right."

After protracted negotiations a price was settled for Rhonehurst and it's 55 acres. "We started with nine horses but by the end of the season we had 25. I've had fantastic support, particularly from Fred's owners, David Bott sent me The Breener. When the building work is finished I'll have room for 47 and that's all I want."

Simon is 27 and came later into racing. "The idea has always been in me to take over father's farm in Essex," he said. "I've spent four years at Cirencester and got my two diplomas. But at the end of last season the stewards told me that I would have to turn professional if I wanted to go on. So I did and will go

on as long as I'm enjoying it."

Simon shares a house at East Garston, about four miles from Lambourn, with Mark Bradstock, Fulke Walwyn's assistant and Sarah Lawrence, John Oaksey's daughter.

The Breener gave Oliver Sherwood his first ever winner as a trainer at Newbury in November, 1984. After two further victories on the same track he then finished third to Harry Hastings in the Waterford Crystal Su-

per on Jimmy. He is a decent horse.

After a good start to the season, the stable has been rather quiet recently. "It's all part of the campaign," he went on, "it's a long season and if you want to have a horse fresh for Cheltenham, you've got to give them a break in January."

Mustard and Oppidan are two of the stable probabilities for the big meeting. Unfortunately, Drive on Jimmy injured himself when falling behind Bolands Cross at Ascot on Wednesday and is now out of action.

The trainer is well aware that both he and his brother come from what most people will call a privileged background. "I've been very lucky to have had so much help," Oliver says, "but the chance is there and I'm going to grab it with both hands. But at the moment I'm only a little fish in a big pond."

Simon is also enjoying life to the full. "Luckily I got a good start to the season with both John Jenkins and Oliver being in tremendous form. Things have been a bit quiet lately, but they are just starting to warm up again."

The phrase "to work hard and play hard" may well be a hackneyed expression but it certainly applies to the Sherwood brothers. Both men are looking forward with relish to the first fortnight in June. "David Nicholson is taking a racing cricket eleven over to Kenya and both Simon and I are going. Two years ago we went to Barbados. There will be 25 in the party, 14 players and their wives and girlfriends. We've got five matches arranged, two safaris and a day's racing in Nairobi, all by courtesy of the Kenya Jockey Club.

It certainly promises to be quite a party, with such fun-loving jockeys as Steve Smith Eccles and Graham Bradley already booked for the team as well.

Bleak outlook

There will be no racing in Britain today and the prospects for a resumption tomorrow look bleak. Today's planned fixtures at Newbury, Ayr and Sedgfield have been lost due to heavy snow and frost.

The Newbury stewards found the track unfit for racing yesterday because of "lying snow" and they will hold an inspection at 2.45 today to determine the prospects for tomorrow's Schweppes meeting.

At Ayr, frost is the problem. Yesterday's card was called off, and with more frost forecast the stewards will inspect at 11.30am.

Caterick's chances are described as "remote." The inspection will take place at 10.00am. Unsettled report a dusting of snow. Stewards will inspect at 12 noon.

Tomorrow's Irish meeting at Leopardstown features the Wessel Cable Champion Hurdle. And with no frost in the ground hopes are high that the meeting will go ahead.

preme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham.

Sadly, this promising young horse's career ended with a fatal fall in the race won by Voo Trappe at Cheltenham in December, after a spectacular first appearance over fences at Newbury the previous month.

"Mr Bott was marvellous," the trainer continued, "that happened on the Friday and on Saturday he was negotiating in Ireland to buy Drive

YACHTING

Australians are the favourites

From Barry Pickhall, Fremantle

Australia II and her larger sister Australia III, the two AIAO Bond syndicate America's Cup contenders start as joint favourites to win the 12 metre World championship which gets under way off Fremantle today.

Not only are these two Ben Lexcen designs competing on their own waters but the two crews have shown during last Sunday's practice race that they are quite prepared to race as a team to squeeze out of the competition in particular Australia II, the 12 metre representing the New York Yacht Club.

Such tactics are against the rules but are very hard to prove, so the pressure will be on the American skipper, John Kallius, who came so close to defeating Denis Conner for the right to defend the America's Cup three years ago, to outwit rivals' outcall his Australian

are Chris Law as helmsman, Ian MacDonal-Smith on mainsheet, Craig Nutter at the bow, David Woolner as trimmer. Four of the yacht's original French crew and Canadian Eric Jesper.

The group may be short on practice, sails and stability upwind in strong conditions (the boat is one of only three 12 metres not to be fitted with a wing keel) but one asset striking fear in other crews is Cudmore's awesome reputation of coming out top in tight situations. A winner of ten international match racing titles, he is a master at race starts and marking round manoeuvres, and as one Australian crewman who has sailed against him before put it: "Who wants a fierce competitor like Harry bearing down on them in someone else's boat?"

Racing for the first time together last Sunday, this scratch crew finished a six after protests dismissed the first three yachts from the leader board, and if they can keep clear of the protest room themselves, they should put up a creditable performance.

Other yachts expected to shine include the Gucci backed Italia with Rod Davis, skipper of the American backed Eagle syndicate acting as tactician, New Zealand's glass fibre constructed K25 skippered by Chris Dickson and the re-born French Kiss, steered by Marc Pajot which built up a nine minute lead over the fleet during a race eleven days ago only to be robbed a win on the last leg when her mast crashed.

This latest Briand design which is as distinctively French looking as a De Cheveaux (small green) can into after protests dismissed the first three yachts from the leader board, and if they can keep clear of the protest room themselves, they should put up a creditable performance.

Other yachts expected to shine include the Gucci backed Italia with Rod Davis, skipper of the American backed Eagle syndicate acting as tactician, New Zealand's glass fibre constructed K25 skippered by Chris Dickson and the re-born French Kiss, steered by Marc Pajot which built up a nine minute lead over the fleet during a race eleven days ago only to be robbed a win on the last leg when her mast crashed.

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The Sherwood brothers, Oliver (left) and Simon

Call for a Ueberroth to give the game a 'super' future

Simon Barnes

At the bottom level of the League, he said that regional divisions were the answer, following the pattern of virtually all major European nations. He has various possible formats for regionalization, which could include bringing in the Gok League clubs. Divisions would be equal status, smaller and local. The aim is to turn the Football League from a ladder into a pyramid with a very broad base. "Parochialism must be the rubric of the lower divisions," Fynn said.

The natural extension of this is for the regional winners to play off, and the eventual winner to move into the national second division. But admission into the top section of the pyramid, the super league itself, would not be dependent on the simple winning of an annual competition.

In truth, the super league is already well on its way. There have ever since home clubs started to keep their own gate receipts. Television strengthens this by concentrating on events of national significance, but matches between the presumed super league clubs.

The balance of power

But the old structure of the league keeps the balance of power with the weak. The voting board gives one vote to each first and second division club, and eight more shared by the rest. If the weak clubs wish to block any changes, they need just six second division clubs to vote with the lower divisions (all proposals require a 75 per cent majority to get through). However, the mighty will not stand for this forever. They will accept financial trouble simply because the Harlequins of the world are holding on to their coat tails.

"Football needs a Ueberroth," Fynn said. Ueberroth is now commissioner of baseball in America. Fynn believes that the game must be run as a commission for football, a marketing man to restore financial sense to the game, and quickly. "What football needs," Fynn said, "is not evolution but revolution."

Trumpetings of the moguls

Furthermore, the game has never been held in greater favour than it is at the moment. The horrors of the spring, followed by the self-interested trumpetings of football moguls throughout the country, have seen it, if it is, unquestionably, time to call the cavalry.

Satchi & Satchi became involved in football by acquiring Spurs as a client. A tiny agency, it has since become an important, and the FA Cup is sacred, but the rest we can do without. But football's 6-man board seem to be multiplying the number of matches played again and then again, to wrench the last drop of money from the pockets of the fans who are too late. "Scarcely value has been lost, and scarcity has a real value," Fynn said.

But even without shaves of football, Arsenal v Spurs and Spurs v Manchester United are events of national significance. Spurs v West Brom is not, unless it is in the FA Cup. On the other hand, Exeter v Plymouth is an event of local significance while Plymouth v Wigan has neither local nor national significance.

"There are too many sportsman matches and too many sportsman competitions," said Fynn. "The League is important, and the FA Cup is sacred, but the rest we can do without." But football's 6-man board seem to be multiplying the number of matches played again and then again, to wrench the last drop of money from the pockets of the fans who are too late. "Scarcely value has been lost, and scarcity has a real value," Fynn said.

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سكوا من الأصلي

Family in one room not homeless

Regina v Hillingdon London Borough Council, Ex parte Puhlhofer and Another Before Lord Keith, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Brightman and Lord Mackay of Clashfern

[Speeches sold February 6] "Accommodation" in section 1(1) of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 did not mean "appropriate" or "reasonable" accommodation but merely accommodation that could be properly be described as such within the ordinary meaning of the English language...

butrooms in the guest house for some 36 people. The applicants in consequence had to eat out (save for breakfast, which was provided) and to wash their own and the children's clothing at a laundrette.

Their submission was that a person did not have "accommodation" within the meaning of the Act and was therefore "homeless" if he occupied premises that either were not large enough to accommodate the family unit or lacked the basic amenities of family life...

If the premises were deficient in any of those respects, they were not accommodation. The local authority had to take into account the size of the family and whether the premises were capable of being regarded as a "home" for that family...

Therefore, they argued, no local authority properly directed itself could have formed the view that the room allotted to the applicants at the guest house was "accommodation" within the meaning of section 1...

Those particular statutory criteria were not to be imported into the 1977 Act for any purpose. What was properly to be regarded as accommodation was a question of fact to be decided by the local authority...

Several features of the 1977 Act had to be borne in mind. Although it bore the word "Housing" in its short title, it was not an Act that imposed any duty on a local authority to house the homeless...

it was incapable of accommodating the applicant together with other persons who normally resided with him as members of his family...

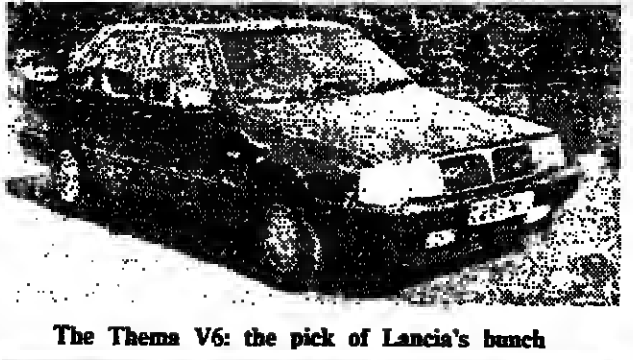
In the instant case the good faith of the council was not in dispute. On the facts in evidence, it was plain that the council had been entitled to find that the applicants were not homeless for the purposes of the 1977 Act...

His Lordship was troubled at the prolific use of judicial review for the purpose of challenging the performance by local authorities of their functions under the 1977 Act...

Where the existence or non-existence of a fact was left to the judgment and discretion of a public body and that fact involved a question ranging from the obvious to the debatable to the just conceivable, it was the duty of the court to leave the decision of that fact to the public body...

Lord Keith, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon and Lord Mackay agreed. Solicitors: DeSindont Wright & Co, Hayes End, Mr J.A. Kosky, Uxbridge.

Lancia looks set for a comeback



The Thema V6: the pick of Lancia's bunch

Until the arrival of the New Lancia Thema last autumn, the Italian company have never managed to make an impact on the profitable executive car sector in Britain...

If the quality of the Lancia Thema I have just been driving is representative of its kind, then Lancia at last has a well-built, competitively priced executive car to spearhead its fight back...

Some ten months ago against a background of rumours suggesting that it had had enough and that it was pulling out...

There is more good news to come with the impending launch in June of the facelifted Delta Prisma and the possibility of the most exciting Lancia yet...

Four versions of the Thema, all fuel-injected, are being imported starting with a two-litre model costing £11,000...

The interior is tastefully fitted out with imitation suede leather upholstery which looks even better than the real thing...

The test included a 400-mile round trip from the Midlands to the South Coast with only a short break out of the car...

Anti-lock brakes The news that anti-lock brakes will be available on the new Ford Escort for the first time on a popular priced car suggests that anti-lock braking is following the same pattern as disk brakes...

Tenant is unable to re-register rent

Regina v Chief Rent Officer for Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council, Ex parte Moberly Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Woolf and Sir George Waller

There was no provision in section 67 of the Rent Act 1977 permitting an application by a tenant for the re-registration of an existing rent, and a determination by a rent officer made upon such an application, by which the increased rent, should be quashed...

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the tenant, Sheila Moberly, from the refusal by Mr Justice MacGregor on November 29, 1984, to grant her judicial review of a decision to quash a registration by a rent officer on December 7, 1983, of an increased rent for the flat occupied by her.

Rent review clause not term relating to rent

MFI Properties Ltd v BICC Group Pension Trust Ltd Before Mr Justice Hoffmann [Judgment given January 31]

A rent review clause was not a term relating to rent, Mr Justice Hoffmann held in proceedings by the plaintiffs, MFI Properties Ltd, against the defendants, BICC Group Pension Trust Ltd, in construing the words "the terms of this sub-lease" (which included those relating to rent) which occurred in provisions for rent reviews.

The relevant provisions were that the rent "shall be reviewed so as to equal the rent at which having regard to the terms of this sub-lease (other than those relating to rent) the demised premises might reasonably be expected to let in the open market by a willing landlord to a willing tenant for a term of 20 years with vacant possession."

market, did not want to commit himself to a fixed rent for the whole of that term. It periodically revised the rent to be periodically revised to an amount calculated on the assumption of a fresh rent at the relevant date.

Where the language was capable of more than one meaning, the court was entitled to select the meaning which accorded with the apparent purpose of the clause which appeared commercially rational.

Solicitors: Theodore Goddard & Co for Andrew Jackson & Co, Hull; Stanley & Simpson North.

Legal aid warning

Mason v Mason The Court of Appeal warned legal aid litigants who pursued appeals in matrimonial proceedings as to the effect of the realization of the Law Society's charge for costs against the proceeds of sale of the matrimonial home.

History irrelevant

Regina v Berry The use of evidence of past incidents for the purpose of proving the intention of a killer at the time he caused death should not generally be permitted.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Farguherson and Sir Ralph Kilner Brown) so held on January 31, when dismissing an appeal by David Ronald Berry against his conviction of murder on April 3, 1985 at the Bodmin Crown Court (Mr Justice Nolan and a jury).

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle



Left: Michael Pennington, Jude the Obscure (Radio 4, 3.00pm). Centre: Victoria Wood (BBC 1, 10.20pm). Right: Paul Jones, Jean Shrimpton: Privilege (Channel 4, 11.20pm)

BBC1
6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.50 Breakfast Time with Mike Smith and Debbie Greenwood.
9.20 Ceefax 10.30 Play School.
12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart.

TVAM
6.15 Good Morning Britain, presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen.
9.25 Thames news headlines.
12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart.

BBC2
9.00 Ceefax
9.35 Daytime on Two: lesson five of a French conversation course.
12.00 Benny, the dog looks for a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Channel 4
2.30 A Question of Economics. An investigation into the work of the City of London.
3.00 Dance Machine. Run Like Thunder, a work created by Tom Job for the London Contemporary Dance Theatre.

Radio 4
5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing.
6.30 Today incl. 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News.
8.00 Desert Island Discs. Michael Parkinson talks to Dennis Taylor, world snooker champion.

6.50 Shipping. 6.55 Weather.
6.58 News: Financial Report.
7.05 Going Places. Clive Hughes.
7.20 Pick of the Week. TV and radio extracts.

7.05 Morning Concert. Vaughan Williams: The Wasps overture; Michael Haydn: Divertimento in C.
8.05 Morning Concert. Tchaikovsky: Overture in minor.
9.05 This Week's Composer. Prokofiev: Concerto in G major.

Schubert (Quartet in G, D 867).
9.10 Czech PO Play the Symphony in C minor, op 27.
10.15 The Heritage Years.
11.00 Stuart Hall (stereo from the first World War).

6.00 News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell.
6.35 Wogan.
7.00 Wogan.
7.40 Dawson's Patrol.
8.10 Dynasty.
9.30 The Wheeling and Dealing Antiques Merchant.

6.15 Good Morning Britain.
9.25 Thames news headlines.
12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart.

9.00 Ceefax
9.35 Daytime on Two.
12.00 Benny, the dog looks for a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

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3.00 Dance Machine.
3.25 The Chord Sharp.
3.40 Fragile Earth.

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6.00 News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell.

